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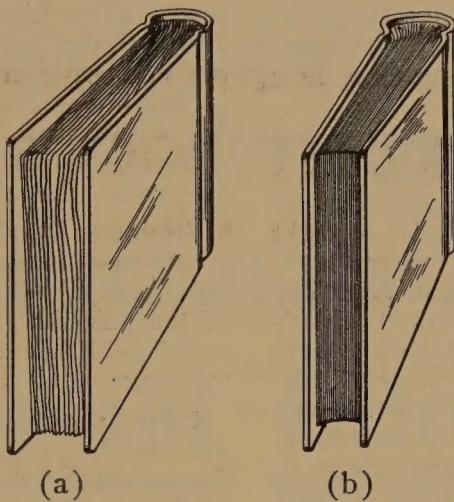
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Library Book Outlook

Booth Tarkington's 'The Midlander' (Doubleday, Page) and Stephen McKenna's 'Vindication' (Little, Brown) are the outstanding new fiction offerings.

The other belles-lettres titles include 'Come Hither,' by Walter De la Mare (Knopf, \$6), a 735-page poetic anthology for the young of all ages, embellished by Alec Buckels (808.1); 'Each in His Own Way; and Two Other Plays,' by Luigi Pirandello (Dutton), including 'The Pleasure of Honesty,' which the author regards as his best play (852); 'The Collected Essays and Papers of George Saintsbury, 1875-1920' (Dutton, 3 v., \$12.50), representing Saintsbury's own selection, and including some papers never before collected (824); 'Some Confessions of an Average Man,' by Richard King (Small, Maynard), being further genial essays by a favorite English writer (828); and 'Robert Burns: His Life and Genius,' by Andrew Dakers (Dutton), which is broad-mindedly sympathetic and written with keen literary judgment.

Side by side in the domain of history and public affairs stand H. H. Asquith's 'The Genesis of the War' (Doran, \$6) and David Lloyd George's 'Where Are We Going?' (Doran \$3). The former is a 405-page book, austere and concise in its presentation; the latter, based on newspaper articles and lecture-notes, is a running commentary on the European situation during the first ten months of 1923. The D. C. numbers are respectively 940.9 and 940.91. The Lloyd George book bears the title of 'Is It Peace' in England.

Other history books worth considering are 'The Old and the New Germany,' by John F. Coar (Knopf), written by a lifelong student of German civilization (943); 'The Achievement of Greece,' by William C. Greene (Harvard University), emphasizing those elements which have been of permanent worth and are of special pertinence today (938); a cognate work, tho on different lines, entitled 'The Pageant of Greece,' by R. W. Livingstone (Oxford University Press), which forms a companion volume to the author's recent 'Legacy of Greece' (880); and 'The Tomb of Tutankhamen,' by Howard Carter and Arthur C. Mace (Doran), which definitely and officially records the treasures found last winter (913.32).

Miscellaneous titles include 'The Claims of the Coming Generation,' (304), a British symposium on education, edited by James Mar- chant (Dutton); 'Laundering,' by Lydia Ray Balderston (Lippincott), designed for homes and institutions, issued in the Lippincott's Home Manuals series (648); 'Ticket and Show-Card Designing,' by F. Arthur Pearson (Pitman), an 82-page manual (745); 'Editing the Day's News,' by George C. Bastian (Macmillan) an introduction to newspaper methods

(070); 'The Listener's History of Music, Vol. I,' by Percy A. Scholes (Oxford), a book for the concert-goer, carrying the account down to Beethoven (780.4); and 'Connecticut Beautiful,' by Wallace Nutting (917.46), in the States Beautiful Series, published by the Old America Company, Framingham, Mass.

Stephen McKenna's 'Vindication' (above-mentioned) is the novel about which the author went to court in London, owing to the refusal of the publishers of the *Referee* to complete its serial publication in that journal, where it was running under the title of 'Gloria.'

Other promising January novels announced are Helen R. Martin's 'The Snob,' Burton E. Stevenson's 'The Storm Center,' Coningsby Dawson's 'The Coast of Folly,' and Natalie S. Lincoln's 'The Thirteenth Letter.'

Among reprints and new editions mention must be made of Clayton Hamilton's 'On the Trail of Stevenson' (Doubleday, \$2), originally published in 1915; Ethel M. Smyth's 'Impressions That Remained' (Longmans), two volumes of interesting music reminiscences, originally published in 1919, at \$10.50, and now offered for \$4; and S. S. Huebner's 'Life Insurance' (Appleton, \$2.75), a revised and enlarged edition of an authoritative manual on the subject (368.3).

Hamilton's 'Stevenson' book is noteworthy on account of the indiscreet passages occurring in the first issue of the first edition, passages which were suppressed in later issues, following on acrimonious controversy. The objectionable passages occurred on eighteen pages of the original. The most keenly resented ones related to Stevenson's 'union' with Mrs. Osbourne previous to her divorce, his early relations with women of a class 'inferior to his own,' his struggles between two natures, etc. Owing to its rigorous suppression, this first issue is now extremely rare. Needless to say, the objectionable passages are not included in the present reprint. The numerous full-page views of scenes associated with Stevenson, from drawings by Walter Hale, are again reproduced, tho not in the sumptuous form of the original edition. The book is clearly intended as a low-priced, yet pleasing reprint.

What promises to be an interesting new travel-book series has just been inaugurated by Harry H. Powers' 'Japan' (915.2), the first volume in Macmillan's 'University Travel Series' (\$2.50). Mr. Powers is well known as the head of the Bureau of University Travel, Boston.

Helen Keller's 'The Story of My Life' has again been issued in the twelvemo cloth style (\$1.90). It has been out of print in this form for some time.

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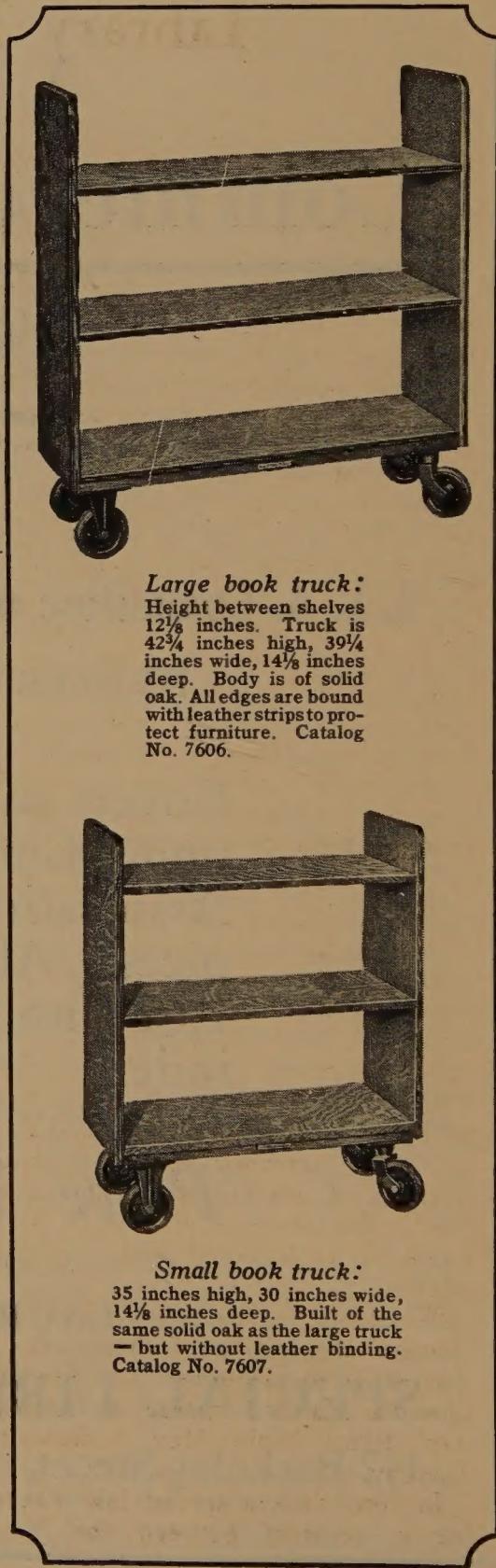
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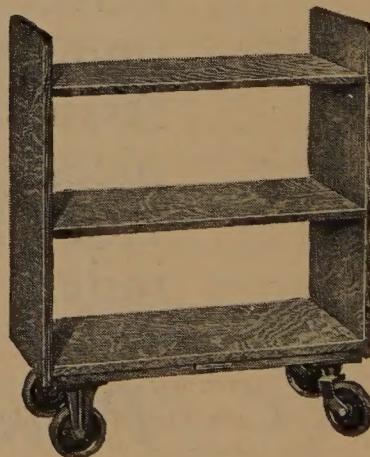
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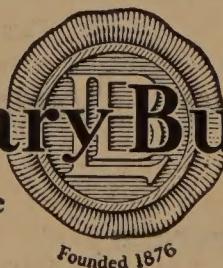
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

JANUARY 15, 1924



Library Legislation in 1923

BY WILLIAM F. YUST

Librarian, Rochester (N. Y.) Public Library and Chairman, A. L. A. Committee on Legislation

THIS review of library legislation is based on actual examination of the printed laws, supplemented by correspondence with library agencies of all states. Grateful acknowledgement is made to these agencies for copies of laws submitted, some of them generously summarized, and especially for comments and explanations necessary to a correct understanding of problems involved.

The review covers three dozen general and a few special acts and an almost equal number of defeated bills. On the whole the legislative grist of the year is rather disappointing. Several laws passed which seem detrimental to the library cause, such as those which subordinate the library agency of the state to a political department or even to the education department. Added to this tendency is the long array of bills which failed, the longest ever recorded. Encouragement may be found however in numerous progressive measures.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

An Ohio amendment "makes the appointment of library trustees for the administration of the public library mandatory in school districts having public libraries and does away with direct board of education management of such public libraries. Most of the school district public libraries in the state are now operated by boards of library trustees and this provision is merely intended to bring about uniform methods of administration among these libraries." Provision is also made for an official name of such board and for the necessary officers.

Wisconsin in first class cities (Milwaukee) changed the ending of the library year from August 31 to December 31. Annual report is now due March 1 instead of October and trustees' terms begin May 1 instead of third Tuesday.

In New York a special law makes provision for a contract between the Young Men's

Association and the city of Albany under which the association transfers its property to the city for the purpose of establishing a public library system upon agreement that it shall be adequately supported by the city. Of sixteen trustees, ten are named in the act. These are at present members of the board, the other six and their successors to be appointed by the mayor. The trustees named in the act are members for life, but vacancies occurring in their ranks are also to be filled by the mayor.

The Y. M. A. has conducted a free library for 24 years, receiving certain aid from the city. Its property is valued at \$200,000 and a central library building to cost about \$150,000 is under construction.

This legislation permits the consummation of many years of hoping and planning on the part of those who realized the city's need of public library service. Such a library is of more than local importance on account of the location there of the New York State Library School, which has long felt the lack of such a library for laboratory purposes. Some of its students remember that twenty-one years ago a similar purpose would have been accomplished by the acceptance of Andrew Carnegie's gift of \$150,000. But the offer was rejected first by the common council and later by a popular vote.

TAX

Illinois voted to extend for another three years the prevention of scaling minimum library tax by county clerk below one and eight-tenths of a mill, which is the maximum library tax allowed in cities under 100,000. Larger cities can not be scaled below eight-tenths of a mill. This bill was substituted for one which increased the rate for cities to two mills and for cities over 100,000 to one mill.

Kansas authorized a tax of not over one and one-half mills in second-class cities with assessed valuation of not over \$3,500,000 to produce a fund of \$30,000 for a public library

building. Should the fund so produced be more than sufficient for the erection of such building, then the remainder shall be transferred to the library fund. The average second-class city has about 6,000 population.

A Missouri amendment provides that in first-class cities appropriation for public library shall be not less than \$55,000 a year, formerly not less than four-tenths of one mill on the assessed valuation for such year.

In New Jersey county boards are given authority to borrow money for county library purposes in anticipation of receipt of taxes levied therefor. Notes issued for that purpose are to be known as "County library tax anticipation notes." Tax revenue bonds may be issued for county library tax which has become delinquent.

Ohio passed a law revising its tax system generally, which affected all tax-supported libraries, but especially school district and county libraries, and repealing all provisions for tax levies outside the limitations of 17 mills in municipalities and 14 mills in rural districts. Two years ago an act placed libraries governed by trustees appointed by boards of education in a very favorable position. It provided that the amount certified by the library board as necessary for library purposes should be in addition to all other levies authorized by law and could not be reduced. The act of this year made all libraries subject to the limitations and to review by the budget commission. The bill after being vetoed by the governor and repassed over his veto, was by decision of the state supreme court referred to the voters on referendum petition and defeated at the November election.

Kansas failed in an effort to raise the possible library tax levy from one-fourth to one-half mill in cities of 40,000 or more (Wichita). It also lost an amendment aiming to change the levy for school district libraries from a millage basis to a five-dollar-per-teacher basis, and making such levy mandatory instead of permissive.

New York lost in an effort to permit boards of supervisors, common councils, boards of estimate, village trustees and town boards to vote taxes for library purposes in addition to those already voted by the electors. Two tax exemption bills also failed: one applying to bar associations maintaining law libraries free to public officials, the other to property of libraries located outside a city.

REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES

Massachusetts considered an amendment permitting city and town library boards to use money received from fines or lost books to

purchase new books. This bill was submitted in response to complaints from many librarians that they had to turn their fine money back to the town. As soon as the bill was drawn up and circulated the state authorities were overwhelmed with protests from librarians who did not want the law changed because it gave the town a better feeling and the trustees received better co-operation if the people felt that their money was being returned to the town. Furthermore, the tax commissioner declared that if the law were changed to allow libraries to keep money coming to them, then it would have to be changed for all other town fees also, thus upsetting the whole scheme of taxation. So the bill was withdrawn.

In Michigan the state constitution has for 88 years provided that public libraries of a given county should receive the proceeds of all fines collected in the county for breach of the state penal laws. This year a senate joint resolution proposed an amendment to the constitution which would place all such income in the general fund of the county. Later a house bill proposed that only half of the penal fines could be used for library purposes. This was changed to apply only to districts having unexpended penal fines. Both efforts failed.

The same problem was involved in another unsuccessful bill applying to counties of over 500,000 inhabitants (Detroit). This was the so-called Wayne County library bill. It permitted consolidation of penal fines into one fund to be administered for the county as a whole rather than to be split up into small funds for each township or school district.

The report of the Committee on Legislation of the Michigan Library Association says, "In a few counties there are school and library districts with large unexpended balances of these penal fines, and so long as this condition prevails it is almost certain that efforts will be made to divert this money to other purposes. This session passed 323 laws, two of which relate to libraries and 23 in the interests of hunting and fishing." The committee recommends a campaign to inform the people to the fullest extent of their library needs.

USE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY FOR LIBRARY PURPOSES

Ohio authorized municipalities to lease suitable property to public library trustees or to an association providing free library service. County commissioners may permit use of public grounds or buildings for public library or other purposes.

New York passed a special law permitting use of abandoned school buildings in Syracuse for public library or other municipal purpose, altho the state has a general law on the subject.

Illinois authorized library trustees to sell library property with approval of local legislative body when such property is no longer necessary or useful for library purposes.

CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDIZATION

California extended the power of the state board of education to establish qualifications for teachers' certificates so as to include certificates "to act as school librarians." The minimum standard of education and training for such librarians shall be the same as that of teachers of like grade.

New York passed an amendment to the education law permitting the regents to fix standards of service for libraries receiving state aid or local support. Libraries failing to comply with established requirements shall not receive state aid and no local tax shall be levied for their support. This is a re-enactment of a law passed two years ago, which was inadvertently omitted when the section was amended in 1922. When it was first passed it excited no comment, but when it came up for re-enactment this year it seemed to be discovered for the first time by some sections of the state which have misgivings about too much state control. Some criticism was raised against this extension of the power in the hands of the regents. If the law seems drastic, it should be remembered that it is almost word for word the recommendation included in a comprehensive report on standardization and certification made to and adopted by the New York Library Association in 1920.

The Library Extension Division of the state reports: "To carry out the provisions of this act the regents have adopted a voluntary plan of certification of librarians and library workers, and have enacted in their rules the necessary provisions for creating a body to put the plan into effect. These rules provide that the five persons who compose the Library Council of The University of the State of New York shall appoint, with the approval of the president of the university an examining committee of three persons to pass upon all applications for certificates and to prepare and grade all the examination papers."

The Illinois bill for certification of librarians lost again. This was practically the same bill that failed two years ago. It was drafted at the request of the Illinois Library Association and twice endorsed by it, but is opposed by a few libraries and a few library directors.

RETIREMENT

The New York state retirement system, adopted in 1920, was last year extended to counties and cities and this year to towns and villages. Early this year, however, the attorney general of the state ruled that library employees

were not eligible to membership in the system. The opinion in the judgment of the state authorities served to invalidate the membership of all library employees already admitted to membership even in cities where they were appointed and paid under civil service rules in exactly the same manner as other city employees. The state administration therefore sponsored an amendment to remedy the difficulty.

This amendment specifically mentions library service as entitled to the benefits of the state retirement system "so far as and to the extent only that such service is paid from appropriations made by a participating municipality."

As a result the members of a given staff may be divided into two groups: Those whose salaries are paid from municipal appropriations will be eligible, while those who are paid with funds received from other sources will be barred from participation. A number of libraries in the state having endowment funds would be affected in case the municipality should join the system, notably in New York city. There the city has its own retirement system for its employees, but librarians are not eligible to membership according to an opinion of the corporation counsel. So an amendment to the city system was passed this year by both houses of the legislature specifically mentioning librarians as entitled to membership.

This bill was in the form of an amendment to the city charter and required the approval of the mayor. He disapproved it because in his judgment librarians are not city employees, as they are under a board of trustees who have the power to hire and fire, who fix the salary scale and pay the salaries; because librarians are not under municipal civil service, and because some of them in the higher positions were not residents of the city or the state of New York. Librarians of New York city are therefore excluded from the city system, and the state system will probably not be adopted by the city. The pension outlook for librarians in the great city is therefore not encouraging, as they "seem to be neither fish, flesh, nor fowl."

To September 4 the system had been adopted by thirty-four counties, thirty-one cities, one village, and one town.

In response to an appeal of the contributors to increase the maximum pension allowed under the pension act, Illinois amended her law passed in 1905 for the formation and disbursement of a public library employees' pension fund in cities of over 100,000 population (Chicago). The amount deducted from salaries of contributors is on a percentage basis, but shall be not less than \$10 nor more than \$60 per year (formerly \$6 and \$40).

Contributors for twenty years may retire with annuity of \$600 at age of fifty (formerly no age limit). But if the employé remains in the service after twenty years and age fifty, an increase of \$2.50 per month shall be added to the monthly pension allowed for each additional year until a maximum of \$75 is attained.

"The provision for an age limit of 50 years, although it is from five to ten years less than is usually provided in pension and retirement funds, will go a great way towards making our fund solvent and remove the criticism directed at it by students of pension systems." The number of employees contributing is now 346.

STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

The North Carolina commission is by act of the legislature assigned new quarters on the fourth floor because the board of agriculture needs space on the first floor.

A New Hampshire act increases the salary of the secretary of the commission from \$1400 to \$2000. When the former secretary resigned for a better salary elsewhere the commission had difficulty in finding a successor except at an increased salary. Hence this act.

Vermont abolished the free public library commission and vested its rights, powers and duties in the state department of education. This is part of the general plan reorganizing the civil administration of the state and consolidating departments and bureaus. This was one of the oldest commissions in existence, dating from 1894. It had been carrying on a full program, aiding the establishment and improvement of libraries, giving direct aid in the form of money grants to small libraries, conducting traveling libraries, etc.

A Wisconsin law fixes at \$35,000 the annual appropriation for the free library commission which has been \$24,000 for six years; also \$10,000 a year for books, formerly \$18,000.

In Missouri a feeble effort was made to repeal the law creating the state library commission and to deliver its property to the state university.

"Colorado has to make her usual reply that the bill consolidating the work of the state library, traveling library commission and public library commission failed to pass." It seems there was not sufficient organization to bring home pressure to bear on legislators. Nevertheless the bill was approved by all committees and lost only in the final rush.

"The State Library Association is considering whether it shall re-introduce its county library bill at the next session. According to replies the women seem to favor it, but men are opposed because it calls for tax support.

"The usual attempt was made by the Florida Library Association to get a library commission

established. We seem to be gaining a little for the reason that two years ago the vote was two to one against us, and this year we managed to get a tie vote."

Utah years ago attracted attention with its state library-gymnasium commission, which was merged into the state board of education. A library secretary and organizer appointed by and responsible to that board did effective work for a number of years. Then the work lagged for want of adequate appropriations. This year a bill was introduced transferring the work to the librarian of the state university and making him or her act as school librarian. The thought was "that more or less adequate service might be given through the library department of the state university without the expenditure of a sum which would be needed to employ a full time school librarian. It was discovered, however, that the library of the university was quite hampered for funds to carry on its prescribed work. . . . For this reason the bill was not pushed very strenuously in the legislature and failed." This is the kind of economy which makes one blade of grass grow where before there were two.

In Nebraska an unsuccessful effort was made to discontinue the state library commission and transfer its activities to the library extension bureau of the state university. Among the members of the commission are the chancellor and the librarian of the university, the latter serving as president of the commission. This close relationship between the commission and the university library has been further manifested in their co-operative methods of state service. The proposed transfer seemed to the friends of libraries to be in the interests of better organization and progress and in keeping with the governor's effort to "unify the state government by combining agencies rendering a like service." Unfortunately the governor's recommendation that the commission be abolished included a discontinuance of the appropriation for the work it was doing. This together with political and other complications prevented its accomplishment.

In South Dakota this consolidation movement was also in the air, but did not reach the legislative stage. A certain "research bureau" according to its habit had recommended that the library commission be put under the department of public instruction. Against such change it was argued by the commission (1) That the library serves people of all ages, while the department of public instruction is concerned entirely with people from six to seventeen years of age; (2) That a commission consisting of governor, state librarian, superintendent of public instruction and representatives from the state

library association and the federation of women's clubs could better judge the needs and merits of library work than could a school expert; (3) That such a change in organization would not make for economy because the commission as now constituted profits by the advice of some of the best librarians free of charge, while the existing salary scale in the school department is higher than in the commission (to the latter's regret); (4) That in states like Massachusetts and Minnesota, where such changes were made several years ago, there has been no reduction in appropriations. In fact, the researcher referred to was impressed with the efficiency of the work being done and had recommended consolidation not to effect any great economy, but to bring about greater convenience in administration. The one argument which probably appealed most was the definite proof that consolidation would cost the state more rather than less money."

STATE LIBRARIES

Alaska reorganized the management of the state historical library and museum, which had been in the hands of the governor, and created a commission consisting of the governor, secretary of the territory, commissioner of education, treasurer of the territory, attorney general and one member of the board of managers of the Alaska Historical Association. Authority is given to purchase certain land and building and repair and equip it for library and museum purposes. An appropriation of \$21,000 is made to carry out these provisions.

Ohio provided for a state office building to cost about four million dollars, which is to include quarters for the state library.

Pennsylvania abolished the state library and museum general library and law library with their divisions of public records and library extension, also the positions of the officials in charge. The functions heretofore vested in the abolished agencies are transferred to the department of public instruction.

The Pennsylvania Free Library Commission was established in 1899. After an existence of 20 years it was in 1919 abolished and in its place came the library extension division of the state library. Now the state library, which swallowed the commission, is itself swallowed by the education department.

This action, which is a part of the general reorganization of the state government, has as one of its objects to "reduce the number of independent spending agencies." The step was protested by the state library association and by "every prominent librarian in the state," on the ground that the library system has one set of ideals and the school system another set of

ideals. It was pointed out that "A library system directed by a department whose function is the administration of public instruction will hardly be administered with the same effectiveness nor developed to the same extent as one directed by men with a single object, a single task." The state library had "served the people as an independent agency for more than a hundred years."

A Wyoming law transfers and sets aside for the support of the state law library one half of the lands, money, contracts, proceeds from sales of lands or other property appropriated for the maintenance of the miscellaneous state library. In 1897 or earlier the state set aside 15,000 acres of land of the federal land grant, which was "pledged as a perpetual fund for the use and benefit of said miscellaneous state library." That is the wording of the statute. A like amount was set apart for a state law library. Now one half of the miscellaneous library resources is transferred to the law library.

Does this new law break the former pledge? To this the attorney general of the state answers: "This was not perpetual but only so long as the legislature desired to have it that way, and there was no pledge made at the time. At any rate both the miscellaneous and law libraries are housed and taken care of as one library and if the change has been made as suggested it was probably because the legislature found that the funds had not been formerly properly apportioned."

In Kansas a futile effort was made to reduce the already small salaries in the state library and the traveling library commission.

California had two unsuccessful bills relating to library buildings and equipment. One appropriated \$120,000 for additional stacks for the state university library at Berkeley. The other proposed to erect a building in San Francisco to house a branch of the state library to be known as the Sutro Library.

Maine two years ago passed a resolve for the appointment of a committee which should at an expense not over \$5000 procure plans and estimates for a new state library building. Appointment of that committee was optional with the governor, who did not act. This year a similar resolve, not optional, was passed again but vetoed by the governor. His veto message expressed fear of harmless looking acts which might be the beginning of "vast" expenditures as shown by the experience of the state. He assumed this project would cost \$500,000, which he says is unobtainable, but if it were available, it could be better used for new buildings for the insane and feeble minded and state prisoners.

COUNTY LIBRARIES

In California the salaries of county librarians are fixed by legislative act in the same manner as those of other county officers. Librarians shared this year in three general acts: salaries in seventh-class counties were increased from \$2280 to \$3000; twenty first-class counties from \$1800 to \$2100; forty first-class counties from \$1200 to \$2000. Several other bills to increase were vetoed by the governor and one to reduce failed.

California also authorized county boards of supervisors to establish and maintain museums and to acquire and maintain a library in furtherance of the objects of the museum.

Hawaii in 1921 passed a modern county library law, authorizing supervisors to establish and maintain county libraries by appointing a managing board of five members. County librarians must be certified by the Library of Hawaii, but need not be citizens of the territory at time of appointment. They must attend meetings called by the Library of Hawaii. Supervisors may contract with existing library for county service. Appropriations are made for two years: County of Maui, \$20,000; County of Kanai, \$16,000; County of Hawaii, \$25,000. These amounts are to be available when such counties have established libraries or entered into contracts.

The Ohio county library law of 1921 received numerous amendments sponsored by the state library association to eliminate difficulties which have arisen in the operation of the law. Public library service is defined as one supported in whole or in part by tax; part of county having a public library may be included in a county library district; trustees must be residents of the district and must be appointed within 60 days after the election creating the district; public library property may be transferred to county library; boards of education may contract with county library for school library service; the new law enumerating ways of terminating contracts omits the one "or by failure of the county library district trustees to make the necessary levy"; county library funds shall be turned over to proper officer of the library with whom a contract is made; libraries operating under older county library law may change to new organization.

North Dakota had an excellent county library bill, but it failed in spite of thirty-three reasons advanced in its support in the course of the finest library publicity in the history of the state. The state library commission is ready to try again, having been assured that such a progressive measure could hardly be expected to pass the first year it is introduced. It will succeed next time, if there is a good crop.

The Oklahoma county library bill was introduced and recommended for passage by the special committee of the legislature and the committee of the whole, but it was struck from the calendar in the final shuffle—"lost for the lack of two hours time." It is expected to go thru the next session of the legislature "sure."

Washington tried again to pass its county library law, which failed two years ago. There was no opposition to the bill this year but on assembling of the legislature there was found to be "an absolute demand from the 'people back home' that there be no legislation of any kind that would require additional taxation. While our county library law was optional, as it should be, the argument was made that it opened the door for the library cranks at home to force an additional tax on their people by establishing a county library and the possibility of increased taxation was absolutely tabooed in this session. Not a single bill of that kind got through. It was admitted however that, if any got through, this was the one." It failed on the last day, when fourteen bills were up; twelve passed and "ours was the 13th."

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

In Ohio boards of education may provide school library service or contract therefor with a public library. This legalizes the school library service now being provided in many cities but without specific authority.

A joint school district public library may be discontinued by mutual consent and property transferred to district proposing to continue the library. No new joint school district libraries may be organized.

Illinois tried in vain to create the position of supervisor of school libraries, to be appointed by superintendent of public instruction; salary \$5000; duty to make studies bearing on library service in the schools and make suggestions relating to the equalization of educational opportunities thru the improvement and standardization of public school libraries. This was recommended by the state library association in keeping with similar work done in eleven states, but it was not urged by the education department.

In Rhode Island two bills failed, one providing increased appropriation for the purchase of books and supplementary reading, the other giving state support to public school libraries on the same conditions as to general public libraries.

INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES

Kansas appropriated \$250 a year for two years for the purchase, upkeep and repair of books for the state school for the deaf. This was vetoed by the governor and passed over his veto.

Massachusetts for the third year in succession failed to secure an amendment permitting its state public library agency (the division of public libraries in the department of education) to extend its work to state and county institutions, altho the educational committee before whom it was argued has been unanimously in favor of it each year and no additional appropriation for this purpose was asked. "Very few laws have been enacted in this state for the past three years which look as though they might some time require more money to finance their operations."

LAW LIBRARIES

California amended the code provision for county law library fund. Colorado fixed the salary of supreme court librarian at \$3000, which had not before been fixed by statute. Michigan failed but New Jersey succeeded in authorizing counties to maintain law libraries for use of courts; book purchases shall not exceed \$2000 a year.

In New York state law libraries as usual came in for considerable attention thru special acts. One increases a salary from \$600 to \$1500. Two establish supreme court libraries at Glens Falls and Auburn. In each case the trustees are to prepare the estimate of appropriation needed, which estimate is to be included in the amount of money to be raised in the county for court expenses. In neither case does the tax levying body, the board of supervisors, seem to have any option in the matter. The Auburn act also provides for appropriations by the state.

Two acts relating to special law libraries were vetoed by the governor. One fixed the salary of the librarian of the supreme court in Queens county at \$3500 and directed the controller of New York city to issue bonds for the salary increase. The other vetoed act placed the library of the court of general sessions in New York in the custody and management of the judges of the court, authorized them to appoint a librarian at not exceeding \$4000 salary and an assistant librarian at not over \$3000, and directed the trustees to certify the appropriation needed and the board of estimate of New York city to include the amount certified in the annual budget.

Special acts like these have been passed and approved annually for many years. There seems to be a total lack of uniformity in dealing with these libraries. Each one separately comes to the legislature from time to time and gets what it can. Probably this is why the governor had a bill introduced giving the commissioner of education fiscal supervision over eighteen existing supreme court libraries and any others hereafter established for which the state appropriates money. All expenditures for construction, books, operation and upkeep were to be first

authorized by the commissioner and the annual estimates of desired appropriations were to be made and filed by him. The bill passed the senate and was advanced to third reading in the assembly but failed finally. While the libraries concerned would probably not relish this supervision, the bill certainly has merit. The state appropriates annually some \$40,000 for these libraries, and then leaves them to go it alone, while it exercises careful scrutiny over public libraries to each of which it allots \$100 a year or less. There is opportunity and need here for some constructive work that will establish a consistent policy in the organization, management and operation of these law libraries.

MISCELLANEOUS

California passed a bill making it a crime to buy or receive books or other library "property without ascertaining by diligent inquiry that the person selling or delivering the same has a legal right to do so." The maximum penalty is one year in prison or a fine of twice the value of the property, or both. This penalty is much lighter than that of the New York law, after which it is modeled.

Michigan amended her law empowering the state historical commission to collect from public offices throughout the state valuable historical records not less than thirty years old. The amendment provides that public libraries having fire-proof buildings and arrangements for safe keeping of such records may retain them locally. Certified copies of such documents shall be admitted as evidence in all courts.

Montana created a pioneer history fund and provided for a building to be maintained by the state.

North Carolina repealed the law of two years ago requiring the state library, hall of history and museum to be kept open certain hours on Sunday.

OBSCENE LITERATURE

Among the unsuccessful bills in New York the one which caused the most comment and aroused the strongest opposition was the one known as the "Clean Books Bill." This was in the form of an amendment to the penal law relating to obscene literature. It had passed the Assembly and had almost gotten thru the Senate apparently before the opposition realized its full meaning.

The existing law which aims to prevent the publication, sale, possession or distribution of indecent literature implies the presence of the problem of the unclean page. Under it a few publishers have been convicted and punished. Prosecution however is difficult because of the old question "What really constitutes obscene literature?" The amendment sought to clarify

the statute by adding that the words obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, indecent and disgusting should be construed in their commonly accepted meaning. Another difficulty for the prosecutor is that the courts have insisted on judging a book as a whole and not on certain nasty passages. So the amendment stated that an indictment might be brought against a publication as a whole or against any part or parts of it. And finally it excluded expert testimony, which is another bane of the prosecutor.

In favor of the bill were such organizations as the New York State Federation of Churches, the Federation of Catholic Societies, the Protestant Episcopal Church of New York, the Society for the Suppression of Commercialized Vice, the Boy Scouts, the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus and the Salvation Army. These forces were led by Justice Ford of the Supreme Court of the State, who had organized the "Clean Books League" after his daughter had obtained a so-called vile and degrading book from a commercial circulating library in New York City. These forces argued that "The state endeavors by laws relating to public hygiene to protect innocent persons from the physical contamination of rotten men. It also endeavors to protect the public from the moral contamination of rotten books."

In opposition practically as a unit were the publishers and the papers in news columns and editorial pages on the ground that the liberty of the press was in danger. The Authors' League waxed warm against it in the eleventh hour. One author claimed that those in favor "are seeking permanently to destroy all artistic and

cultural privilege in this country" and that "no more sly, malicious, and intellectually throttling legislation ever came before an American legislative body."

The final debate was lively but the bill failed. It is not dead however, as the next session will probably see. Meanwhile indecency in books, magazines and papers will continue to be permitted so long as it appears only in spots and is not overdone.

APPROPRIATIONS

It has been noted that a number of important bills were defeated because an appropriation was included or was provided for in the future. This is seen where extension or new agencies were contemplated, such as library commissions and county libraries. Existing agencies likewise had their budgets rather closely pruned. The majority of them show little change from two years ago. Marked decreases appear in the Delaware and Vermont commissions and the California State Library. In striking contrast are the increases in the Ohio State Library and the commissions of North Carolina, Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

The following table shows appropriations for five distinct purposes. In states which do not have that number of separate agencies, combinations are indicated. The state library column is by far the strongest in resources and widest in scope. State education departments are in control of three state libraries and of commission work (column 4) in ten states. Amounts in column 7 are in some cases for state departments and in others for state historical societies not under state control.

APPROPRIATIONS

STATE	1 Years Cov.	2 State Library	3 Note	4 Lib. Com- mission	5 State Law Lib.	6 Legislative Ref. Bur.	7 Hist. Lib.
Alabama							
Alaska Ter.	2	None		None	None	None	\$12,700
Arizona	2	\$22,600			\$12,600	In col. 5	
Arkansas	2	5,000		\$4,000	7,000	None	12,600
California	2	203,210		Note			
Colorado	2	4,600		4,600	4,000	None	3,500
Connecticut	2	213,700		77,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	2,000
Delaware	2	None		6,400	6,040	None	600
Florida	2	2,000		None	None	None	None
Georgia	1	10,150		6,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	6,000
Hawaii Ter.	2	108,900					
Idaho	2	In col. 5		11,553	13,765	None	7,525
Illinois	2	129,180		In col. 3	43,600	65,815	58,600
Indiana	2	91,300		42,400	13,000	24,000	30,000
Iowa	2	12,000		50,400	12,000	In col. 4	12,000
Kansas	2	28,800		14,100	In col. 3	12,500	37,800
Maine	2	83,100		In col. 3			
Massachusetts	1	49,500		23,790			
Michigan	2	109,440		None	In col. 3	Note	43,860
Minnesota	2	None		48,000	44,100	None	44,000
Missouri	2	13,300		23,050	In col. 3		50,870
Montana	2	None		None	27,518	In col. 5	9,600
Nebraska	2	34,020		24,000	In col. 3	24,500	17,000
Nevada	2	22,800					

APPROPRIATIONS						
1 STATE	2 Years Cov.	3 State Library	4 Lib. Com. mission	5 State Law Lib.	6 Legislative Ref. Bur.	7 Hist. Lib.
New Hampshire	2	35,200	9,550	In col. 3	In col. 3	1,000
New Jersey	1	21,430	46,580	In col. 3	In col. 3	1,300
New Mexico	2	6,400				
New York	1	167,660	79,390	In col. 3	In col. 3	
North Carolina	2	10,000	55,000	18,000	In col. 7	60,000
North Dakota	2	In col. 5	19,140	10,500	In col. 4	20,710
Ohio	2	156,840	In col. 3	69,120	In col. 3	106,356
Oklahoma	2	26,484	45,260	In col. 3	In col. 3	35,300
Oregon	2	75,000	In col. 3	20,000	In col. 3	20,231
Pennsylvania	2	170,000	In col. 3	In col. 3		2,291
Rhode Island		8,112	16,200	7,791	4,904	
South Dakota	2	18,660	18,850	8,700	In col. 3	In col. 3
Tennessee	2	21,800	23,000	In col. 3	None	10,000
Texas	2	48,220	None	10,000	In col. 2	None
Utah		None	None		None	None
Vermont	2	42,000	15,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	7,100
Washington	2	13,000	25,000	24,100	None	16,650
Wisconsin	2	39,460	172,000	In col. 3	In col. 4	177,800
Wyoming	2	15,460				

NOTES ON APPROPRIATIONS

Alabama. Appropriations are made quadrennially. Neither the state library nor the department of archives and history has a designated sum in the budget.

California. This is a decrease of \$102,690 from two years ago, when the state library was placed under the department of finance. "This was economy year. Amount given covers all state library activities."

Connecticut. Commission, which is the public library committee of the state board of education, \$32,000 for school libraries, \$30,000 for grants to public libraries, \$15,000 for administration. Eight county law libraries receive \$35,200.

Delaware. Commission appropriation cut 38 per cent. Was \$5,200 yearly.

Georgia. State library appropriation is for salaries and books; other expenditures are paid from special funds not directly appropriated.

Hawaii Territory. Also for county libraries: Hilo Library, \$42,000; Kona Library, \$1,000; Maui County Library, \$30,600; Kanai Public Library Association, \$29,000. The Judiciary has \$3,600 for salary of librarian, \$10,000 for law books and \$5,000 for additional library equipment.

Illinois. State library including archives division and \$51,120 for library extension division.

Iowa. All amounts given are for maintenance, not including salaries, which are paid out of general fund. The commission appropriation includes salaries but not supplies and furniture. There is also \$4,000 for medical library, which does not include salaries.

Maine. State library appropriations have been increased each year by additions from the contingent fund.

Michigan. Legislative reference included in general legislative appropriation.

Minnesota. Amount for commission work is approximate; is included in department of education. Also \$80,000 aid for public school libraries.

Montana. Law library has only \$23,390, if governor's cut is effective.

New York. Column 3, Library extension division of state education department includes \$15,000 for traveling library books and \$40,000 for annual state grants to local libraries.

North Carolina. Commission receives an increase of 57 per cent; also \$8,000 additional for stacks and

equipment in new quarters. Also \$7,500 for rural school libraries.

Ohio. Archaeological and historical society also receives \$238,000 for addition to building.

Rhode Island. Amounts given are for 11 months, changing the fiscal year to end November 30 instead of December 31. Column 4 includes \$17,700 for public libraries. Column 7 is divided between two historical societies.

Tennessee. The department of education also has \$2,400 for rural librarian and stenographer.

Wisconsin. Commission includes \$62,000 for legislative reference and \$20,000 for library school. State library includes \$3,800 for stacks and shelving.

Free on Request

The Department of Social Action of the National Catholic Welfare Council, 30 East Ontario Street, Chicago, has published the Civics Catechism in the following translations: Italian, Slovak, Polish, Slovenian, Roumanian, Hungarian, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Lithuanian, Croatian, Bohemian, Arabic and French. A copy will be sent free to any library.

A limited number of copies of the pamphlet "A warning to investigate before you invest in securities . . . with comments upon fraudulent methods, sources of information and the work of the Chambers of Commerce" published by the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York will be distributed to those requesting them. Address: 65 Liberty Street, New York.

A list of reference readings on international relations published as a reprint of eight pages is a consolidation of lists which have appeared in *Our World*, compiled by George F. Bowerman, of the District of Columbia Public Library. A limited number of the list is available for free distribution by *Our World*, 9 East 37th Street, New York City.

A Program for North Carolina Libraries

TWELVE months ago I reviewed for the LIBRARY JOURNAL the progress made by North Carolina libraries from the establishment of the first public library in the State in 1897 to the end of 1922. At this time I wish to speak of the tasks which await our hands as librarians during the next decade.

Of these tasks, the first is the development of the county library, the high school library, and the business library.

North Carolina is primarily an agricultural State with few large cities. Consequently, the county must be made the unit for book distribution. The example set by such counties as Forsyth, Guilford, New Hanover, and Durham, in which various county boards have contributed funds to the city libraries to provide county-wide service, must be carried to its logical conclusion—a free, tax-supported county library in every one of the one hundred counties. Book wagons should be placed in service to reach every school and village and the lead of California should be followed, in which by July, 1918, forty-two of the fifty-eight counties had established county libraries under the state library law, thirty-eight of the forty-two received an annual maintenance fund of \$539,458, contained 945,856 volumes, maintained 2890 branches, served 1549 school districts, and were directed by trained, certified librarians under central state supervision.

The high school library should receive attention next. The number of books required by the State Department of Education for the accreditation relation of high schools must be greatly increased, their character must be more widely varied, the rooms in which they are kept must be planned and equipped especially for library service, an annual income for the purchase of books and periodicals of one dollar per pupil must be provided, and in every school, as in the State of Wisconsin, there must be a trained high school librarian who administers the library in close co-operation with the superintendent, principal, and all the teachers of the school. The fifty-five thousand boys and girls who throng the high schools of the State today must not be allowed, if they go to college, to report there as high school graduates did at the University in 1921-22 that only thirty-three out of every one hundred had had access to school libraries; and those of the fifty-five thousand who are not fortunate enough to continue their education thru college must not be allowed to go out into life without having learned how to use books

and thereby continue their education thru public libraries and extension classes.

North Carolinians have not been believers in books as tools. Bankers, manufacturers, farmers, laborers, housekeepers of the State have not recognized them as absolute necessities, and, consequently, have stood in the way of their advancement not only in the fields of educational and cultural development, but in the primary fundamental economic concern of winning bread and butter. In the development of our commerce and industries heretofore library materials have played no essential part, but as competition develops between North Carolina industries rather than between North Carolina and out-of-State industries, and as the State attempts to solve the problems with which the rapidly increasing complexity of its life is attended, the highly specialized library of the textile interests, the banking interests, and others of a similar sort must and will appear. The laboratory and the library combined must be brought to bear upon the soil, the orchards, the forests, the streams, the cotton in boll and lint, and every other phase of our business and industrial life, if these sources of wealth are to yield the State, rather than New England or some other section, the total income which they should produce.

One of the most significant movements in the field of American education within the past twenty years has been that of university extension as carried on by state universities. If North Carolina libraries are to render the greatest service of which they are capable, they, like the colleges and universities, must cultivate the extension spirit. Not only must county library service be established, but with the University and the colleges of the State putting on extension classes in every section, with banking houses and industrial concerns turning their interest towards the use of books, with groups of various sorts seeking instruction in a wide variety of subjects, city and school and college libraries must assist in providing quarters for the classes and books for the necessary collateral reading. And in doing so they will not only do the work which it is their task to do, but will win support for further extension of their activities.

Similarly, the effectiveness of the present libraries and those that are to be established can be, and must be increased by placing only trained librarians in charge of book collections, and by training every school boy and girl in the use of books. The day must come within the

next ten years, when the trained librarian in North Carolina will be the rule, when all colleges and teacher training institutions give instruction in the use of books, when the State University will offer advanced instruction in library science thru a library school, and when all of the nine hundred thousand or million North Carolina's children of school age are required to acquire proficiency in the use of books.

One of the weaknesses of library effort in the State to date has been attributable to the failure of librarians to participate in the general activities of their communities and particularly to bring to completion certain sorts of work which fall, professionally, within the field of librarianship. The reasons are so obvious that they scarcely require mention. Time and money have been lacking to carry out such a program. The librarian must become a collector of local history, a stimulator of investigation, an assessor of the values of the books offered the public, an editor, an author, a publisher, or what not, and from time to time he must direct the thought of the State so far as that thought has to do with educational and literary subjects. Lists of books on subjects of interest to North Carolinians need compiling, source materials for the writing of histories of every one of the hundred North Carolina counties should be listed, indexes to the more important newspaper articles should be worked out, and the bibliography of the books and pamphlets in North Carolina libraries bearing upon all phases of North Carolina life should be made available. These are distinctly the tasks of librarians, and means and time must be found to enable them to accomplish them.

North Carolina librarians must also become the recorders, the auditors or accountants of the intellectual activities of the people of the State. Facts concerning what the State reads or does not read should be studied and interpreted, the promotion of local and State-wide organizations for the study and production of literature should be recognized as one of our interests, and our support should be given to all North Carolina journals and publishing houses which are seriously attempting to advance the interest and reputation of the State in literary or historical or other intellectual ways. If North Carolina has been a negligible factor in the book markets of the nation, if we read far less either of the better books or national journals than citizens of other states, if Mencken can charge, with more of truth than fiction that we, as a part of the South, are therefore a part of the "Sahara of the Bozart," if North Carolina book stores are not the equal of book stores in other sections,

if the press of the State is not giving enough space to library and literary topics, if North Carolina teachers have not considered the school library of equal importance with the gymnasium and the scientific laboratories, if school administrators have not recognized the librarian as essential to the welfare of the school as any other teacher, it is our duty to point out these facts, and see that the situation is changed. The conditions of which we complain will never be changed for the better unless we who are in large measure responsible for them show the State what its deficiencies are and set resolutely about remedying them.

Statistics appearing in the State press for Sunday, November 11, brought out the fact that within twenty-three years North Carolina had increased what it spent for education from \$950,317 in 1900 to \$23,000,000 in 1922, and that the illiteracy rate of 29.4 in 1900 had been reduced to 13.1 in 1920. For the negro population of the State, the illiteracy rates were 38.6 in 1900 and 24.5 in 1920.

But if a search for statistics bearing upon the library facilities for the negroes of the State were made today, it would be found that there were no books in school or public libraries for negroes in 1900, that today the 750,000 or more negroes of North Carolina have only five public and twenty-four training school and college libraries, and that the total number of volumes in all the libraries for negroes which can be checked up statistically do not exceed fifty or seventy-five thousand. Within the next ten years, thru the State Department of Education and the Library Commission, this phase of library work must be placed on the same sort of permanent, intelligent basis as the work of the normal schools for negroes today. Here is a field from which a call for assistance is constantly coming up, and which must receive consideration.

The Carnegie Corporation now gives little money for the erection of libraries, consequently the day has come in the State when the opportunity and responsibility for the erection of libraries must be recognized and met by North Carolina communities themselves. Cities like Winston-Salem and Charlotte and Greensboro and Durham must look to themselves and their generous citizens of wealth for the means with which to make ample provision for library service. Building extensions and special funds will have to be secured locally. A state that ranks fourth in the value of the farm crops which it produce, that manufactures more cotton and tobacco than any other state in the Union, that is outranked by only seven states in the amount of income taxes it pays into the federal treasury should be able to do this.

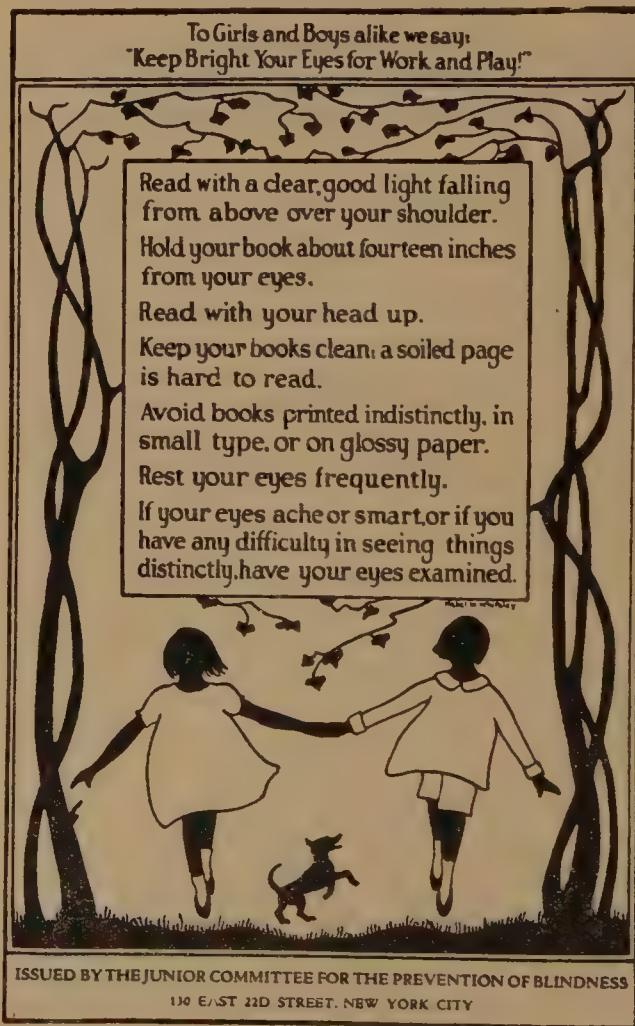
The final objective in this ten-year program should be the thousand-fold enrichment of the libraries with which we are connected. Heretofore, we have had to content ourselves with the most limited personnels and have had to limit our patrons to a most slender diet of books and other library materials. The annual income of the average city library per inhabitant in the State has been approximately twenty cents instead of the one dollar which has been set up as the standard in the country at large. In no library in the State is there the wealth of material, the infinite variety of manuscript, and picture, and rare book, and stereograph, and musical score or record such as thousands of other Americans find in their libraries and from which public and students derive conceptions and standards of the fine and the beautiful in life. But the necessity for this situation has, fortunately, forever passed. Winston, today, could and should raise annually more than the total cost of her library building! I am not asking for a lavish outpouring of money for luxuries. I am not urging that these things be secured simply because others have them. I am not holding up in a boastful spirit the example of the University library which this year is putting \$59,000 into its book funds and running expenses—a total of \$4,000 more than the original cost of the building in which it is housed. On the contrary I am trying to say that if we are to give all of our people a more fundamental knowledge of the world in which they live, if we are to elevate their standards of living, if we are to bring them to a larger appreciation of science and literature and the arts, if we are to bring in the day when more of our sons and daughters become able to express themselves with pen and pencil and in the various arts, the backgrounds of their lives must be enriched, and greatly enriched, thru the schools and libraries and museums with which we surround them.

I am aware that we librarians are not able ourselves to underwrite with bank accounts the program here suggested. There are doubtless features of it which we shall not see carried out. But I want to remind you that there is value in a program, in a plan, in an idea. In some way such things are fertile. Like the mustard seed of biblical mention, they germinate. They take root. They grow. In what they become, men and women find happiness and fullness of life. Aycock and McIver and Holmes were not men of wealth. They never thought in the terms of the millions which are today going into schools and roads such as we witness in and around Winston, and thruout North Carolina. But twenty-five years ago they did think great thoughts, they thought schools and roads, they

made them known to the people from a thousand platforms, and in making them the thoughts of North Carolina, they insured the fullness of the present hour. The program which lies before us, if we may compare small things with great, is small. But it looks to the day when the capital we invest in the making of men will more nearly equal that we invest in the making of things, when the wealth of our minds will more nearly match the wealth of our factories and fields, and when the paths to learning and more perfect self-development and self-expression thru intimate association with the thoughts of those who have thought and achieved and passed on before are made straight and accessible even unto the most under-privileged.

LOUIS ROUND WILSON, *Librarian,
University of North Carolina.*

[The foregoing is an abridgement of an address to the North Carolina Library Association at its Winston-Salem meeting in November.—Ed. L. J.]



THIS BOOK-PLATE IS ISSUED BY THE JUNIOR COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, 130 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET, NEW YORK, WITH A VIEW TO STIMULATING AMONG GIRLS AND BOYS PROPER USE OF THE EYES WHEN READING

Speaking of Circulation

BY CLARENCE E. SHERMAN
Assistant Librarian of the Providence Public Library

THE public librarian who has been able to report a rapidly increasing circulation of books for home reading during the past two years seems to be an exceptional person. A scanning of the printed reports of a considerable number of important institutions located in different parts of the country brings to light such statements as the following:

"While the issue of books for home reading increased during the year, the rate of growth over the previous year was considerably smaller than the normal increment for this library."

A public library system which lent over two million volumes in 1921, a gain of more than two hundred thousand for the year, increased less than twenty thousand in 1922. Many libraries that have shown gains of from ten to 20 per cent for several successive years have dropped to increases of from one to ten per cent.

The situation in not a few libraries has been even more serious, as is indicated by the following extracts from annual reports:

"For the first time in a long period, the circulation has failed to show an increase." (This particular institution issued more than a million books during the year, which was seven per cent below the figures for the previous twelve months.)

"The year just past shows a decrease of about twenty thousand from the eight hundred thousand of the previous year."

Another library with a six million issue in 1921, dropped off thirty thousand in 1922.

A business trip which made it possible for the writer to visit more than a dozen important public libraries in New England, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Michigan, a few months ago, provided an opportunity for the exchange of views on this question, and correspondence with a considerable number of librarians as to the cause of this tendency toward a decline in public library effectiveness has elicited in nearly every case the same answer:

"Industrial conditions. Business is good. People are working. Therefore, they haven't so much time for reading."

That explanation sounded perfectly logical and it seemed to tell the story until it was found that in at least two important cities where there had been industrial depression extending over several months, accompanied by the usual unemployment conditions, providing plenty of oppor-

tunity for reading, nevertheless, a falling off in the issue of books for home reading had been reported. Furthermore, we are told by industrial statisticians that business conditions have been easing off since last May, and in many industries the situation for the past six months has been best described by the word "spotty." A definite reaction would naturally be expected in circulation figures from this retardation in business growth if we are to charge the slowing up of the past two years entirely to industrial influences. The response to this change in business tone has apparently made only a slight impression on the statistics of issue. In some instances, it may result in a turning movement which will prevent the reporting of an actual loss for the year, but it is doubtful if the average library will be able to report a gain for 1923 which will compare at all favorably with the increase of 1921 over 1920, for example.

All this seems to be sufficient evidence upon which to assume that the falling tendency described by the graph representing the use of public library books cannot be summed up in the phrase "industrial conditions." Surely there must be other factors to be taken into account.

It does not require a very careful search to uncover some of these elements. As a barrier to the reading of books, we are thoroly familiar with the influence of the automobile. It was not so long ago that we were startled by an announcement to the effect that there was one motor car to every twenty persons in the United States. In 1923, the figures are nearly doubled—about one car to every eleven persons—this in spite of the growth in population.

The effect of this increase in recreational opportunity cannot fail to be felt by public libraries. The interest in and the reading of books and magazines on automobiles, their care and operation, is quite insignificant when compared with the actual loss in reading desire and reading accomplishment caused by this remarkable development of the motor car as the family caravan.

Then there is the moving picture, the recreational agency which helped to wipe out the saloon and won many friends thereby. For many years the inoffensive public library has had a chance to understand just how the saloon felt about the movie as a competitor, and there appears to be no definite sign of an abatement in the effect of the moving picture program on

the reading habits of our urban population. We are informed that in New York City, a half million of people attend the movies daily, and throughout the country, more than fifteen million face the silver screen every day. Such an influence cuts deeply into the ranks of the Army of the Stay-at-homes, the shock-troops of every public library's clientele.

The vigorous and apparently sincere agitation for economy in expenditure by a tax-tired people is also affecting the circulation of books. Most public libraries have been in distress for nearly a decade, trying to drive Appropriation and Service-costs under the same harness. The effect of this condition of affairs has been particularly evident in the decreased activity in branch extension. The withdrawal of the Carnegie Corporation's gifts and the tax-shyness of many communities have combined to bring about a marked falling off in branch development which has now begun to express itself in no uncertain terms in the circulation statistics of a large number of American public libraries.

And now we have become aware of the presence of another competitor for the attention and the time of Mr. and Mrs. Average Man and their children. It is the radio. According to one estimate, there are today more than seven million wireless instruments in the United States, most of whose operators are "listening in" on the programs that are broadcast from some five hundred stations every afternoon and evening.

Like the automobile, the radio is far-reaching in its influence. The whole family comes under its spell. There are thousands of individuals who appear to be quite bewitched by this instrument and its mysterious power. Many a "tired business man" who at the office or on the golf course has the patience of a New York Subway guard, will sit breathlessly thru the thrilling adventures of Peter Rabbit, those exciting weather reports, an exhilarating discussion of the styles for the winter of 1924, a snappy lecture on the influence of Walt Whitman on *vers libre*, and a Chopin program, and then after the family has retired, he will stay up "getting stations" until after midnight, reporting at the breakfast table with much pride that he got Moosejaw, Painted Post, or some other broadcaster of note.

Well, what of it? Is the American public library facing a period of reaction against reading for education, information and recreation? Is Mr. Edison's prophecy correct? Have we passed thru the rise and are we approaching the decline and fall of the printed book and its influence upon civilization? For my part, I think not. Altho the situation is worthy of thought and consideration, to me it is hardly to

be regarded as serious. A study of the figures of almost any library for a long period of years will show here and there a plateau, and not infrequently a descending curve in the graph of circulation growth. Particularly is such an easing off to be expected after the almost unprecedented use which was made of public libraries during the first three years after the Armistice. Furthermore, every organization sooner nor later reaches a point in its development when production, or the quantity of its service, cannot maintain a constant rate of gain without an expenditure of effort which by comparison is geometrical rather than arithmetical. It is quite likely that many public libraries are in that condition today.

It is not my purpose to draft a program which is to be regarded as a cure or even a remedy for the conditions to which I have called attention. Many ways and means could be suggested. Perhaps the development of untried but promising methods of increasing the registration of borrowers on large scale, on the assumption that the distractions of this age of jazz have condemned our reading public to become a race of light and occasional rather than regular and intensive readers. Therefore, to maintain its position as an important public utility, the public library must strive to increase its list of registered readers, a policy of "spreading the service thin," as it were.

Or, on the other hand, this may be the time to disregard the quantitative element in library service, to cease our efforts to reach superficially the entire population of the community whether they want it or not, and instead to center our attention upon a policy of intensive, personal service of the highest possible quality for those men, women and children who believe in the gospel of the printed page.

Or, perhaps —. But that is another story.

Paris Library School Director Appointed

As resident director of the Paris Library School, has been appointed Mary Prescott Parsons, who, since last summer, has been on leave of absence from her charge of the Morristown (N. J.) Public Library to act as assistant librarian of the American Library in Paris. Miss Bogle who conducted the summer course of the school last year will act as supervisor, spending some time in Paris in March and again in July.

Miss Parsons, who is a graduate of Smith College and of the New York State Library School Class of 1913, had been an assistant in the Information Division of the New York Public Library previous to her appointment to Morristown in 1917.

The Year at the Congressional Library

AT the beginning of his report of the work accomplished by the Library of Congress in the year ending June 30, Dr. Putnam explains the apparent disproportion in the length of the department reports. The ordinary material acquired and the ordinary service rendered are alike incapable of description within reasonable limits; the work of classification and cataloging is too technical to be interesting in its details outside of the profession; and the intensive service of certain divisions aiding the serious investigator could be made intelligible only by an elaborate analysis and explanation which in some cases would involve a breach of confidence. Accounts of certain of the material added to the collections, on the other hand, may be made interesting and significant to the unprofessional reader, and as a stimulus to gifts such particularization is in the interests of expediency.

The reports of greatest length are those by Dr. Moore of the Division of Manuscripts, Mr. Engel of the Division of Music, and Dr. Swingle on the accessions in Chinese literature, which is accorded an appendix to itself.

The appropriations for the library permitted the ordinary operations to be maintained, with one important exception, but allowed no expansion in the service, and in particular allowed no relief from the congestion of books on the shelves which yearly becomes more critical. The north stack, for instance, planned to accommodate 705,200 volumes, now contains 927,500 volumes of books on sociology and history, classes in which growth is most constant and rapid. Under the most favorable circumstances possible, no relief thru new stack construction can be expected before July, 1926, by which time the collection will have grown to 3,335,000 volumes. In another twelve or fifteen years a new construction outside the present building will be necessary. The new building should house such agencies as the branch printing office and bindery, the card division, the copyright office, and such parts of the collection as are less frequently consulted.

The exception referred to above is in the work of publication of bibliographies and special compilations, many of which are ready for the compositor but are being held awaiting action. The appropriation of \$212,250 for printing and binding is absorbed by the printing of the Bulletin of Copyright Entries; printing of catalog cards, every one of which produced for sale represents a charge upon the appropriation in no way reimbursed to it, as the receipts from

sales are covered into the Treasury; and for binding and repair. The residue of \$19,950 suffices only for the printing of administrative forms and stationery, the annual report, and the *Monthly List of State Publications*.

Inclusive of the Law Library, there were 3,089,341 books in the Library last June, a gain over the previous year of 88,933; 177,905 maps and charts, a gain of 3,812; 972,130 volumes and pieces of music, a gain of 17,826; and 436,802 prints (pieces), a gain of 8,057.

Business at the Copyright Office surpassed last year's, which set a new record. The gross receipts were \$153,923. Registrations numbered 148,946. Of the 98,005 deposited articles transferred to the Library of Congress 20,818 were books.

Twenty-six incunabula were added, a larger number than usual. The "Opera" of Lactantius, printed in 1468, is possibly the earliest among them. Two of them were added to the law collection. "Grammaticis Graecae Epitome," of Lascaris (Milan: Dionysius Paravisinus, 1476), enjoys the reputation of being the first edition of the first book printed in the Greek language. The earliest piece of Americana, with the exception of some Leyden and Mexican imprints, was "A Discovrse and Discovery of New-Found-Land," by Sir Richard Whitbourne (London: Felix Kingston, 1622). The Library now has thirty-four of the forty-one Jesuit Relations in the original issue.

The Abraham Lincoln papers, given by his son Robert T. Lincoln, and not to be open to inspection until twenty-one years after the donor's death, were the most important accession to the Division of Manuscripts. These are the papers used in preparing the Nicolay and Hay Life. Professor Robert M. McElroy, having completed his Life of Grover Cleveland, has arranged for the deposit of the Cleveland papers, about 150,000 pieces. The Spanish archives of New Mexico have been returned for deposit in the museum at Sante Fé, in accordance with the Library's policy of localizing documents having an interest primarily local. The archives in the Interior Department will also be sent to this museum.

The Periodicals Division received 7,550 periodicals (separate titles; 7,481 last year). The whole number received was 128,301 (last year 126,874). Binding was discontinued for over two months, due to lack of appropriation, and only six members of the normal staff of twelve have been constantly members of the division this year.

Chinese books again far exceeded other East Asiatic accessions. They total 444 works in 3,626 volumes. The Japanese accessions number about twenty-one books in ninety volumes. No Korean or Annamite books were received.

The Slavic section was enriched by gifts from the Russian embassy and the Department of State, making its collection rich in works dealing with recent developments in Russian history.

The number of volumes cataloged was 87,090: new accessions 72,682, recataloged 14,408 (1921-1922, 78,704 volumes, accessions 66,563, recataloged 12,141). Volumes prepared and classified for the shelves numbered 75,105, of which 69,135 were new accessions and 5,970 were reclassified. Among the institutions adopting the L. C. classification were the University of Michigan, Alma College, Alma, Mich., and the Oklahoma Historical Society, bringing the

number utilizing it to seventy-two, so far as is known. The subscribers to printed cards increased from 3,053 to 3,239. The cash sales were \$105,132, an increase of about four per cent. The whole number of different titles represented in the stock in June was 900,878, and about 67,565,850 cards are estimated to be in stock. The printing and reprinting of cards was curtailed during May and June and suspended entirely during the last week of June, owing to a reduction in the appropriation for printing.

Expenditures of the Library and Copyright Office for salaries, increase of Library, contingent expenses and printing and binding amounted to \$910,876. For the care of building and grounds \$158,930 was expended. The 1924 appropriation for the first group is \$958,315; for the second, \$107,191.

The State Librarianship of Michigan

ON December 7 Governor Groesbeck of Michigan appointed Mrs. Mary E. Frankhauser, of Hillsdale, Mich., to the position of State Librarian, made vacant by the death last August of Mrs. Mary C. Spencer. By law this appointment is for a term of four years.

Mrs. Frankhauser is the widow of the late Congressman Wm. H. Frankhauser, of Michigan. She has had no previous library training or experience, but has been interested and active in public affairs for many years. Besides her high school education she took non-credit special courses at Hillsdale College in French, English, and Philosophy. Before her marriage she was a stenographer for five years in the law office of Judge G. M. Chester, and frequently acted as court stenographer for Hillsdale County. It was during the early period of her work in Judge Chester's office that she finished her high school course.

While there is no record at Lansing of anyone who has endorsed Mrs. Frankhauser for this position, it is well known that she has many influential friends among persons who are active in the political affairs of the state. Statements in the press of Michigan are to the effect that the Governor was most favorably impressed by an interview which he had with her with reference to the State Librarianship. She was a candidate for the office, and because of her businesslike manners the Governor believed she had the executive ability which he considered a prime requisite for the position.

The librarians and others interested in the library movement in Michigan had hoped that the Governor would appoint someone to this office who had already demonstrated ability for

the position by a record of successful library achievement. In September the Executive Committee of the Michigan Library Association held a meeting to discuss the situation, and as a result of this sent a special committee of three to interview the Governor. This committee was composed of the librarians of Kalamazoo, Flint, and Muskegon. They told the Governor that they were not urging the appointment of any particular person, but were only interested in having him appoint a competent person who had already demonstrated ability in library work. Besides the librarians, some of the library boards of the state also urged the Governor to appoint as state librarian a person of education, training and successful library experience. The Library Board of Grand Rapids, at its September meeting, instructed its President to write the Governor to this effect, which he did.

The Governor told the committee of librarians that he had determined to give this position to a woman, which was entirely satisfactory to the librarians of the state. After discussing the whole matter, including the inadequacy of the present salary of the state librarian, which the Governor said could be changed only by the Legislature, he told this committee that he would be glad to receive the names of a number of experienced librarians (not necessarily limited to residents of Michigan), who were competent to fill the position, and could be recommended by the Association, together with a brief statement of their education, professional training, and library experience. None of the persons on the list of names submitted to the Governor was an active candidate for the office. They might be described as receptive candidates, pro-

vided the salary was adequate. However, the special committee soon learned that a woman who had had the desired experience and proved ability in library matters could not be moved to Lansing from outside the State for the salary which the legislature fixed for this position: namely \$2500 a year.

At the annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association at Kalamazoo in October the Association requested the Governor to include in his message to the Legislature, which he announced he would call in special session for the reapportionment of the state, the matter of making possible a salary for the State Librarian not to exceed \$5000.

The Governor sent Mrs. Frankhauser's name to the Senate for confirmation before the special session adjourned. He did not ask for any increase in the salary of the position.

The Governor, according to one of the Lansing newspapers, stated his position with reference to appointing a person without experience or training to this work as follows:

"It is the position of the governor that in so far as the library system and the routine of the state library is concerned, the average person can in a short time become familiar with that part of the work, and it is the general education and interest of the librarian in things intellectual that makes up the rest of a librarian's requirements."

Naturally the librarians of the state take exception to the conception of librarianship attributed to the Governor in the foregoing statement; and they feel that a great opportunity for Michigan has been missed. At the very best it will take years for a librarian without any training or experience, to get a grasp of the situation which will enable her to take the leadership in library affairs and library promotion work which now by law poes with that office.

Nevertheless I believe I may safely say that the librarians of Michigan will give the State Library and Librarian in the future as they have done in the past, and whenever it may be desired, every assistance within their power.

SAMUEL H. RANCK, *Librarian
Grand Rapids Public Library.*

Motion Pictures Based on Literature

SELECTED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

ANNA CHRISTIE. First National. 8 reels. Star: Blanche Sweet. A girl, forced into prostitution thru circumstances, is redeemed thru love of a man; from the play by Eugene O'Neill.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE SPEEJACKS. Famous Players-Lasky. 7 reels. Mr. and Mrs. Gowan's experiences on their cruise in a small motor boat; by the authors of "Sea-Tracks of the Speejacks."

BLACK OXEN. First National. 8 reels. Stars: Corinne Griffith and Conway Tearle. Woman of sixty is

rejuvenated to look thirty-five; from the novel by Gertrude Atherton.

BLIZZARD, THE. Fox. 7 reels. Star: Einer Hansson. Drama of man who loses his mind in encounter with terrible blizzard; from the novel by Selma Lagerlöf.

CALL OF THE CANYON. Famous Players-Lasky. 7 reels. Stars: Richard Dix Lois Wilson and Marjorie Daw. Conflict between love of pleasure and love of a man; from the novel by Zane Grey.

DANGEROUS MAID, A. First National. 8 reels. Star: Constance Talmadge. Romance of time of the Great Rebellion in England; from Elizabeth Ellis' novel, "Barbara Winslow—Rebel."

DAY OF FAITH, THE. Goldwyn. 7 reels. Living one's life in accord with the precept "Thy neighbor is perfect"; from the novel by Arthur Somers Roche.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS. Nuart Pictures. 6 reels. Star: Buddy Martin. Strange childhood and romance of a poor boy provided for by a mysterious benefactor; from the novel by Charles Dickens. Version made several years ago featured Jack Pickford.

IN THE PALACE OF THE KING. Goldwyn. 8 reels. Star: Blanche Sweet. Romance, tragedy, and intrigue in the court of Philip II of Spain; from the novel by F. Marion Crawford.

LONG LIVE THE KING. Metro. 10 reels. Star: Jackie Coogan. Boy crown prince is centre of revolutionary plot; from the novel by Mary Roberts Rinehart.

LUCRETIA LOMBARD. Warner Bros. 7 reels. Stars: Irene Rich and Monte Blue. Drama of an unhappy marriage for money; from the novel by Kathleen Norris.

MAYTIME. Preferred Pictures. 8 reels. Stars: Ethel Shannon and Harrison Ford. Tale of three generations in New York where thwarted love in first generation is united in the grandchildren; from the play by Rida Johnson Young.

PONJOLA. First National. 7 reels. Star: Anna Q. Nilsson. Mystery and adventure in Paris and on the South African veldt; from the novel by Cynthia Stockley.

STEPHEN STEPS OUT. Famous Players-Lasky. 6 reels. Star: Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Rich man's son fails his college finals and goes to Turkey for adventure; from Richard Harding Davis' novel "The Grand Cross of the Crescent."

THIS FREEDOM. Fox. 7 reels. Star: Fay Compton. Near-tragedy of successful business woman who neglects her family; from the novel by A. S. M. Hutchinson.

THUNDERGATE. First National. 7 reels. Star: Owen Moore. Romance and adventure concerning the Chinese lord of Thundergate and an American business man; from novel by Sidney Herschel Small.

TIGER ROSE. Warner Bros. 8 reels. Star: Lenore Ulric. Tale of the Canadian Northwest; from the play by Willard Mack and David Belasco.

TO THE LADIES! Famous Players-Lasky. 6 reels. Star: Theodore Roberts. Comedy drama centering around the employees of a piano factory; from the play by George S. Kaufman and Marc Connally.

UNDER THE RED ROBE. Goldwyn-Cosmopolitan. 11 reels. Stars: Alma Rubens and Robert Mantell. Historical drama of time of Louis XIII, showing power of Richelieu; from romance by Stanley J. Weyman.

VINCENNES. Pathé. - 3 reels. From "The Old Northwest," in the Yale University Press Chronicles of America series.

WANTERS, THE. First National. 7 reels. Stars: Marie Prevost and Robert Ellis. Trials of an ex-chambermaid who marries into her recent employers' family; from a story by Leila Burton Wells.

Sherman Williams

1846-1923

IN the death of Dr. Sherman Williams the State of New York lost one of its outstanding school men, the library profession lost a man who has been largely responsible for the growth and development of the school library movement, and society lost what it could ill afford to lose: a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. A man of firm conviction and steady purpose he worked untiringly for whatever aim he chose. Altho he might be called a reformer, his methods were sympathetic rather than dictatorial. He chose to stimulate a desire for reformation rather than to legislate righteousness into anybody.

For many years before he came into an official relation with libraries he was interested in children's reading. One of his strongest beliefs was that education and better citizenship rest largely on the reading habits of the people, because public opinion is based largely on right reading and right thinking. The keynote of most of his public speeches on whatever phase of education, was that as early as possible children should be led to form the reading habit, and should "learn to love to read that which is worth while."

Altho not a trained librarian himself, nor even a librarian in the professional sense of the word, he valued training and the recognized standards of the work. To his efforts more than to those of any other person is due the recent regulation requiring trained librarians in the secondary schools of the State. For several years he had worked toward this measure but had had patience to wait until the time was ripe for its passage. This was one of the most noteworthy events in the history of school libraries in the State of New York.

Second only in interest to his work in the State Department of Education came the Crandall Free Library of Glens Falls. Having been a close friend of Mr. Crandall, the founder, he was able from the beginning to help in shaping the policies of the library. In retiring from active work in the Department of Education he had looked forward to years of undivided service for it to the end that he might help to make it the finest library of its type in the State.

One of his outstanding characteristics was his willingness to serve in any possible way whenever his help was asked. He never refused to go anywhere at any time to speak for the cause of education or school libraries. The vigor and terseness of his talks to teachers and to students made his words interesting and long to be remembered. As a conductor of teachers' institutes over the State he was able to extend his influence to the most remote corners.

He often said of himself that he was unorthodox in politics, religion and education, yet no one would ever accuse him of heresy in any of them. He deplored a tendency of the times which inclines to teach people how to make a living rather than to teach them how to live. But his disagreements were always amicable and he greatly enjoyed a friendly, tho vigorous discussion with any of his colleagues who would support the opposite side.

The ability to play the game of life joyously, to win it or to lose points with a smile, to be ready for whatever fortune the day should bring, to square his shoulders and look the world in the face fearlessly and honestly,—these are some of the characteristics which come back most vividly to one who was closely associated with his work, and who drew great and constant inspiration from his robust presence.

SABRA W. VOUGHT.

A Library Information Service in the Bureau of Education

AT the mid-winter meeting of the Council the A. L. A. went on record for the fourth time as advocating the establishment of a Library Information Service in the Bureau of Education. The text of the bill reads in part as follows:

The proposed service is expected to serve as a clearing house thru which information in hundreds of offices will be made available to librarians who have at present no satisfactory means of knowing in which of these offices a particular piece of information is located. It is also expected to prepare comprehensive digests of current printed matter issued by the United States Government of which librarians should be informed. Such a service will benefit the Government, the libraries and the people.

The Bureau of Education is the logical place for the proposed service. This Bureau is expected "To promote the cause of education thruout the country." The cause of education cannot be better promoted than by making the people real partners in the Government thru providing them with a means of becoming acquainted with Government affairs and actions.

This bill is now before the Education Committees of both houses and there will undoubtedly be hearings on it within a few weeks. It is therefore fitting that as soon as possible, librarians interested in seeing the libraries given an office in the national government should write to the members of these committees stating why the service is needed and urging the passage of the bill, which will provide for its establishment.

The Senate Committee consists of: William E. Borah, Idaho; Thomas Sterling, S. D.; Lawrence C. Phipps, Colo.; Smith W. Brookhart, Iowa; James Couzens, Mich.; Andrieus A. Jones, N. M.; David I. Walsh, Mass.; Thaddeus H. Caraway, Ark.; Woodbridge N. Ferris, Mich.; Porter H. Dale, Vt.; Royal S. Copeland, N. Y. The House Committee consists of: Frederick W. Dallinger, Mass.; Robert L. Bacon, N. Y.; Lorin N. Black, Jr., N. Y.; Robert L. Doughton, N. C.; F. G. Fleetwood, Vt.; W. P. Holaday, Ill.; J. M. Robsion, Ky.; George A. Welsh, Pa.; D. A. Reed, N. Y.; B. G. Lowrey, Miss.; H. St. G. Tucker, Va.; W. W. Hastings, Okla.; R. Lee Moore, Ga.; R. E. L. Allen, W. Va.

Those who write should mention the bill numbers S. 557 and H. R. 663 and the title—A Bill to Provide for a Library Information Service in the Bureau of Education.

EDITH GUERRIER.

The Louvain Memorial Library

To A. L. A. Members:

Constructive work on the American War Memorial Library at the University of Louvain, Belgium, is now almost entirely suspended for lack of funds. A third part of the Library has been built at a cost of \$400,000, and an additional sum of \$500,000 must be secured in order to complete this great educational, patriotic and spiritual project.

Notwithstanding the fact that the A. L. A. endorsed this movement at the Detroit Conference, the appeal for funds issued by President Utley brought from many parts of the country only a meager and disappointing response.

It has been suggested that we set ourselves a quota of \$5,000. This sum will make possible an A. L. A. Memorial Column in the Library building, and it is expected that every member will contribute one dollar or more even tho they may have responded to earlier appeals.

By direction of the Executive Board, I am asking you for immediate help. Will you not present this important matter to the trustees of your library, to library workers not members of the A. L. A., and to others who may be interested, and send a check covering such contributions to Edward D. Tweedell, Treasurer, 78 E. Washington Street, Chicago, marked "For Louvain Library." The Library will be our tribute to the deathless heroism of Belgium. It will be our War Memorial in that country. It will perpetuate the memory of our own men who fell there.

We must help now and prove by our response to this appeal that we have not forgotten Belgium or our own men.

JUDSON T. JENNINGS, *President.*

January 10, 1924.

Help for Japanese Libraries

IN connection with the restoration of library collections by American librarians and publishers the following extracts from a letter to the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL from Professor Takayanagi, and one to the Librarian of Congress by the Library Committee of Meiji University Library, Tokio, will be found interesting.

To the Editor of The LIBRARY JOURNAL:

Allow me to thank you for your kind suggestions in connection with the reconstruction of the university library. . . .

The American Association of Law Schools has passed a resolution to write to various law schools for donations of a complete set of law reviews, and also to write to various law publishers for a donation of a selected list of their publications. The resolution was made on the motion of Mr. John H. Wigmore.

The fire which followed the tremendous earthquake of September 1, destroyed no less than 550,000 volumes out of a collection of about 800,000, forming the library of the Imperial University of Tokio. In addition to this, libraries of other colleges and universities were reduced to ashes. I was sent by the authorities of the Imperial University of Tokio with the special mission of reconstructing the library of that university. It is a tremendous task, but the task is lightened by the generous sympathy on all sides for this difficult but important work for human culture. Dr. Putnam of the Library of Congress has thru your JOURNAL kindly heralded my arrival, and urged various libraries in this country to donate from their book stocks. May I not call upon the generosity of the libraries in America to donate a select list of books which they consider useful for the University Library, or for any general library? We are in need of books in all fields, and are not afraid of duplicates. In case there are duplicates, they will be distributed among various libraries according to their needs. The donations may be sent marked "For the Imperial University of Tokio" to the following addresses: The Smithsonian Institution, Division of International Exchange, Washington, D. C.; Mr. J. Aneha, Acting Consul, care of Hopkins Co., 16 Old Slip, New York City; Toyo Kisen Kaisha, 557 Market St., San Francisco, Calif.; Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Colman Building, Seattle, Wash.; Osaka Shosen Kaisha, care of Steel SS Co., Whitney Building, New Orleans, La.

Any communications in regard to this library mission may be sent to me, care of Japanese Consulate General, New York City (before Jan.



THE RUINS OF THE MEIJI UNIVERSITY AT TOKYO, WHICH BEGAN WORK IN TEMPORARY QUARTERS A FEW WEEKS AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

19), care of Japanese Embassy, Washington, D. C., after January 19.

KENZO TAKAYANAGI,
*Professor of Law at the
Imperial University of Tokio.*

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER TO THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS

Meiji University is one of the oldest and largest institutions of New Japan, founded in 1881. The University consists of the Collegiate Department, the University proper, and special departments. At present we have about twelve hundred students in the Collegiate Department, about three thousand in the Law, Political and Social Sciences, Commerce and Liberal Arts courses of the University proper, and about four thousand who are not candidates for the University degree but for the certificates of the University.

The fire left us empty-handed . . . we have not a single building left; we do not have a single book to read. And yet, as all the educators of the world will agree, we must keep the academical torch burning: we must take care of our students: we must train our young men for the coming great task of reconstruction: we can not close the gate of the University even for a short period. We are happy to inform you in this regard, however, that the trustees and faculty of the University are firmly decided to open our ordinary University work from the fifteenth of October in the temporary buildings.

We are confronted by the gravest problem. . . . The University work can not be done without materials of study and research, namely books and periodicals: and we lost all our books, periodicals and other materials in the fire! And the book stores in Tokyo or rather in Japan (as the largest book stores, which deal in foreign books are all in Tokyo) lost

all of their stocks. This means that we have not only lost our books, but lost also the means of obtaining books for some time. Furthermore, to tell the plain fact, we are in need of such an enormous sum of money to build temporary as well as permanent buildings that we are at the moment not quite certain where we can obtain money for the purchasing of books.

All the people of Japan very heartily appreciate the quick and ever generous response of the great American people for the rescue of the Japanese people. We realize that American hearts know our needs almost before we ask . . . so we ask you, College Presidents and Librarians of America, to spare us any duplicates, whether of books or periodicals. . . . We are making this appeal not from any selfish motive, but from a humanistic motive; not mere begging, but for the sake of culture and education.

T. FUJIMORI.
*For the Library Committee of Meiji University.
Tokyo, Japan.*

NATIONAL THRIFT WEEK

National Thrift Week will be observed from January 17th to 23d inclusive. The National Thrift Committee, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, has designated Thursday the 17th as Thrift Day, with Budget Day, Pay Bills Day, Share With Others Day, Life Insurance Day, Own Your Own Home Day, and Make a Will Day succeeding. Especial attention will be paid to Benjamin Franklin as the most conspicuous exponent of thrift, and emphasis will be laid on the fact that 1924 is the second centenary of his arrival in London. "For Success and Happiness" is the slogan of the Week.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

JANUARY 15, 1924



THE mid-winter meetings at Chicago, December 31-January 3, brought together the usual representative attendance of over two hundred, including the members of the several organizations which, in addition to the A. L. A. Council, held sessions. The outstanding feature was the discussion of library training, continuing the discussion of the Williamson report and involving suggestions for consideration by the Library Training Board, which reported only provisionally and which will present its proposals in time to be considered before and at the A. L. A. conference of 1924, to be held at Saratoga Springs June 30-July 5. Biennial, in preference to annual conferences after 1926 found favor by a large majority in the informal vote taken at one of the Council meetings and a mail vote on the subject will probably result in its acceptance by the next conference. Hawaii was reported as the thirty-third association of state character to affiliate with the A. L. A., and the national associations affiliated bring the total number of affiliations to thirty-seven. The Executive Board provided for the appointment of committees to promote the completion of the Sabin and Evans bibliographies, referred to below.

THE Congress has not so far shown a disposition to hurry up on the immense and important legislation waiting its action, among which the measure for a Department of Education with a seat in the Cabinet should be kept to the front by those interested. The National Education Association and the American Library Association are the two national bodies chiefly concerned. Library progress should be immensely stimulated by the enlargement, with adequate support, of the present Library Division of the Bureau of Education, which, handicapped tho it has been, has done admirable work for libraries. It is half a century since the days when Henry Barnard, first Commissioner of Education, himself a participant in the library conferences both of 1853 and 1876, organized education, not forgetting libraries, on a national scale. His work will be worthily crowned when a Department of Education is

founded, and a step in this direction will be made by the passage of the bill for a Library Information Service, on the plan initiated by Miss Edith Guerrier, which is now pending before Congress. Librarians can do much to stimulate interest in Congress by addressing individual letters to their respective senators and representatives urging both the specific bill for the Library Information Service and the larger measure for the creation of a Department of Education, in which the former will find its proper place.

THE State Library situation is of present interest because of happenings in Pennsylvania and Michigan. In the former state Governor Pinchot requested the resignation of Dr. Donehoo, not for any positive reason, but because his experience in library work did not justify his appointment or prepare him for the specific position which he has for some time held. The Governor has shown his appreciation of the library profession by appointing as acting Librarian Miss Anna A. MacDonald, who has served in the State Library and been an honored member of the library profession for many years and who may finally succeed to the position. In Michigan, on the contrary, an untrained lady, hitherto unknown in the profession, has been appointed State Librarian to succeed the late Mrs. Mary C. Spencer, and while such an appointment may be regretted, it is up to librarians in that state and elsewhere to give her a cordial welcome and be of such assistance as is possible in fitting her for her novel work. President Wheeler of the Michigan Library Association has gracefully and graciously assured Mrs. Frankhauser that she will have this courtesy and support from her state associates. The incident cannot be passed by, however, without emphasizing the protest already voiced against this kind of appointment. Of all posts in the jurisdiction of an executive that of a state or municipal librarian is the least political and partisan by nature, and only professional motives should be operative in such appointments, and it is well that the Council at Chicago appointed a committee to consider and report upon this general subject.

"**S**OME Reference Books of 1923," in our last number, forms the second supplement to Miss Mudge's "New Guide to Reference Books," published by the A. L. A., which was one of the most important bibliographical works of 1923. Other aids to the selection and use of books, in which the year was prolific include the second supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog, edited by Mae Massee, covering the decennium 1912-1921; the Toronto Public Library's Canadian Catalog for 1921-1922; and, in special fields, Frederick C. Hicks' "Materials and Methods of Legal Research with a Bibliographical Manual"; in history and related subjects, the long delayed third part of Sonnenschein's "Best Books" and the fourth part of the Catalogue of the John Carter Brown Library; in literature, the Fiction section of the Standard Catalog edited by Corinne Bacon; and Ina Ten Eyck Firkins' "Index to Short Stories"; while the Chicago Public Library's "Catalog of Vocal and Instrumental Scores" in its collection and the United States Department of Agriculture Library's "List of Serials Currently Received" are valuable contributions to the bibliography of their respective fields. Among catalogers' tools comes a new edition—the eleventh—of the Dewey Decimal Classification, the first under the editorship of Dorcas Fellows; on a decimal system also is based Julia E. Elliott's "Business Library Classification"; and the welcome list of "Subject Headings for Small Libraries" is edited by Minnie Earl Sears. The many essays and practical manuals, especially on newer phases of librarianship, include E. Kathleen Jones' "Hospital Library"; Dr. Williamson's report "Training for Library Service"; Forrest B. Spaulding's "Material for a County Library Campaign," practical pamphlets on school library organization" by Louis R. Wilson and Anne T. Eaton; Theodore Wesley Koch's "On University Libraries"; and the new edition of Dr. Bostwick's "American Public Library," revised to cover the later developments in all fields. Two notable library stories are Mr. Lydenberg's "History of the New York Public Library and William L. Clements' story of the valuable library which he has donated to the University of Michigan.

IT is gratifying to report that arrangements are on foot for three great bibliographical enterprises, the progress of which toward completion should help to make notable the semi-centenary of the A. L. A. Joseph Sabin's great "Dictionary of Books Relating to America" or *Bibliotheca Americana* was left incomplete on his death in 1881, when 82 parts, bringing the work into its fourteenth volume, had been put thru the press. Thereafter, up to 1892, parts 83-116

were printed, bringing the work into its twentieth volume, of which but one double part was actually published, completing the alphabet as far as Smith (Henry), under the direct charge of Wilberforce Eames of the Lenox Library, most eminent of bibliographers in his field. The Carnegie Corporation in 1906 made a grant of \$3600 which enabled Mr. Eames to employ an assistant by whose help the alphabet was roughly completed in 1908. This material, since quiescent, is now safely housed in the New York Public Library in Mr. Eames' custody. Recently an effort has been started to procure the necessary underwriting for the completion of this work, with good prospect of success, and it is hoped at least to complete volume twenty within the current year. Charles Evans' great chronological American Bibliography, of which the eighth and latest volume reaching to 1792 was published in 1914, has since been interrupted for lack of funds, but Mr. Evans has the material well in hand, and a like effort is to be made for the underwriting of this work, so that another volume may presently be produced. It is estimated that the Sabin work will require five additional volumes to complete the alphabet, and Mr. Evans figures that five more volumes of his work, making thirteen in all, will be required to bring the chronological data to 1800, beyond which American production is so large that it seems impracticable to continue to 1820 as proposed in the title. The Roerbach and Kelly volumes, the first published in 1852, will to some extent fill the gap, and after these the American Catalog of Frederick Leyboldt, covering works in print in 1876, continued in successive volumes to 1910, and later Mr. Wilson's publications, bring American bibliography up to date. The third great enterprise is the Union List of Periodicals for which, as previously reported, the necessary underwriting has been procured. This must make a selection from among the one hundred and fifty thousand American periodicals which it is estimated exist, and it is proposed to include about thirty thousand, with references to libraries in which sets or rare numbers can be found.

AMONG the good resolves of the new year which should be promptly fulfilled should be classed abundant generosity to our Japanese brethren in making good, thru donations of books, the loss by earthquake and fire of the great Japanese libraries in Tokvo and the neighboring cities. Professor Kenzo Takayanagi, who is spending some weeks in this country in organizing the selection and shipment of donations, states elsewhere the shipping points to which large donations may be sent; small donations may go preferably to the Smithsonian In-

stitution at Washington. Professor Takayanagi was for two years a student at the Harvard Law School and is therefore thoroly in touch with American affairs and methods. Many of the learned societies, law schools, etc., have already sent or promised important donations and American libraries should not be behindhand in the good work which will further cement international good-will.

THE proposal of Dr. Hill that an appropriation toward the completion of the Library of the University of Louvain should be made from the balance of the War Service fund was met at

Chicago by the query whether, under the resolution of the Committee of Eleven, this would be legal or proper, and this question has been referred to competent counsel. In the meantime, however, the Executive Board has authorized the appeal to individual members of the A. L. A. to join in a substantial donation toward that worthy purpose. The new library building, which is halted because of the insufficiency of funds, owes its development so far largely to American generosity. There could be no better embodiment of the expression of world sympathy with brave Belgium than in this enterprise, and it is to be hoped that American librarians will help to the utmost of their power.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

The Midwinter Meetings

A. L. A. COUNCIL

THE Mid-winter meetings lasting from December 31st to January 3rd included three sessions of the A. L. A. Council; meetings of the Executive Board; the twentieth annual meeting of the League of Library Commissions, informal conferences of University Librarians, College Librarians of the Middle West, Normal School Librarians and several sessions of the A. L. A. Temporary Training Board. An innovation, much appreciated by the visiting librarians, was the New Year's Eve dinner and reception arranged by the Chicago Library Club.

BIENNIAL CONFERENCES

Discussion of biennial instead of annual general meetings of the American Library Association with regional meetings in alternate years was opened by the presentation of the following resolution from the Rhode Island Library Association:

Whereas, the annual conferences of the American Library Association held in different parts of the country have become unwieldy in size and increasingly expensive for those who are able to attend; and,

Whereas, there appears to be little need of yearly meetings of our National Organization when the benefits of the freshness and virility in program to be derived from the less frequent conferences seem to be qualities much to be desired; and

Whereas, biennial regional conferences involving several neighboring states would provide a quantity of attendance and variety in personnel which would reproduce in a more intimate way the desirable features of the American Library Association meetings making it possible for general library assistants as well as executives to receive the benefits of such meetings at relatively little expense; be it

Resolved, that we the members of the Rhode Island Library Association do hereby record ourselves in favor of biennial instead of annual conferences of the

American Library Association, with regional meetings in alternate years; and we do hereby request the Council of the A. L. A. to give this matter their serious consideration and to take such regular and constitutional action as will assist in the inauguration of the plan in 1927, the first year in the second half century of the Association; and it is further

Resolved, that in the event that such a program is put into operation, it is the sentiment of the Rhode Island Library Association that the regional organization for this section of the country should include the New England States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Dr. Andrews' motion that the President appoint a committee to determine the opinion of the members of the Association on the plan and to state for the advice of the Council the arguments for and against it, was carried. An informal vote of the A. L. A. members present for the information of the Council showed fourteen members in favor of annual meetings and eighty-five for biennial. Fourteen of those present did not vote.

Two resolutions regarding donations for the work of the Association presented by Mr. Utley were carried.

Resolved, that the Council of the American Library Association record its thanks to the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial and the American Committee for Devastated France for their recent gift to the Association for library work.

Resolved further, that the Council record its appreciation and endorsement of the interest and work of those officers, Executive Board members and committee members whose presentation of the needs of the Association have resulted in these gifts, and that the Council urge the Executive Board to continue its efforts to secure more adequate funds for the work of the Association.

TRAINING FOR LIBRARIANSHIP

In presenting a brief report of progress and plans of the Temporary Library Training Board, Adam Strohm, chairman of the Board,

paid tribute to Dr. Williamson's clear voicing of the silent thoughts and hopes of many workers in his Report, parallels to which are needed in administration and other branches of library work, where the toxic effects of self laudation are often to be seen, and to the library schools, whose graduates have largely molded librarianship.

The Board, for the expenses of which the Carnegie Corporation has given \$10,000, plans first to collect, in co-operation with library schools, facts regarding present day needs and facilities for training and to submit recommendations looking toward the greater usefulness of agencies now at work and toward such larger provisions for training as the survey shows to be desirable. In a month or six weeks the preliminary report will be sent to the Council members and others, comments from whom will be digested for use of the desired permanent board. A week's conference will be held in New York in March, and the Board hopes to print for the Executive Board its findings about next May.

Discussion of the "Williamson Report" at the council meeting will be reported later as will the sessions of the Temporary Training Board.

On motion of Dr. Hill, seconded by Miss Ahern, it was voted that the Committee on Transfer of Library War Service Activities be asked to inquire into the legality of appropriating a substantial sum of money from the balance now in the war service funds to the rebuilding of the Louvain Library building, and report at the next A. L. A. annual meeting. Dr. Hill explained that the Executive Board, tho it approved the project, thought action impossible because of a ruling of the Committee of Eleven, which states that no money can be used for permanent structures.

POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS TO LIBRARY POSITIONS

The second session on Wednesday morning, January 2nd, opened with a resolution from the Michigan Library Association political appointments to library posts:

To the Council of the American Library Association:

The Michigan Library Association requests the Council to give its most earnest consideration to the situation in the country today with reference to a number of our state libraries. The position of state librarian in many of our states is one of strategic importance to the whole library movement in those particular states. Because this position is frequently being used for political purposes, the importance of the state library as a factor in library development in the state has been destroyed, and the leadership has usually been placed in the hands of a state library commission, or the state is without library leadership so far as the state officially is concerned. With the general tendency among the states to abolish all kinds of state commissions, library commissions included, the state library as a

factor in the library movement is becoming of increasing importance.

Under competent professional leadership the state library is now the leader in the library movement in many of our progressive states; but this is not true of many others.

It is our belief in Michigan that the American Library Association should express its vital concern in seeing competent state leadership in library affairs in all our states. However, such leadership is impossible so far as the state library is concerned, so long as state librarianships and positions in state libraries or library commissions are made the football of personal or partisan politics, examples of which in a number of states are readily recalled. In short, placing people in state libraries for political reasons retards the whole library movement wherever this situation prevails, not only by the inefficiency which results in the state library itself but by the low standard of library service which it sets for the rest of the state. If the Council of this Association would appoint a committee to make a comprehensive study—a fact finding study—of this whole subject, for the purpose of submitting its findings and following them up with a resolution for adoption by the Council which would define the position of the American Library Association with reference to politics of every kind in the appointment to positions in state libraries and commissions, it is certain that such action would greatly strengthen the cause of libraries everywhere in this country and prove of great benefit to the American people. Indeed, it would be a most excellent thing for the advancement of the library as an educational factor in the country if the Association had a standing committee whose duty it would be to investigate all cases of politics as the alleged motive in the appointment or dismissal of librarians and to report its findings to the Association and to the public generally.

A recent example of what is generally regarded as a political appointment in a state library has occurred in Michigan, where a most estimable lady without previous library experience or training has just been appointed State Librarian, the Governor of the state justifying himself, according to the newspapers, by the following statement:

"It is the position of the governor that insofar as the library system and the routine of the state library is concerned, the average person can in a short time become familiar with that part of the work, and it is the general education and interest of the librarian in things intellectual that makes up the rest of a librarian's requirements."

A newspaper writer said to be very close to the Governor of Michigan, in discussing this matter says in print that because the new State Librarian was not a trained librarian "may have been the very reason for her appointment. Librarians, like the members of some other professions, are liable to get into ruts, and it is sometimes advisable to turn away from the technicalities of professional training to the efficiency of executive ability."

Public officials should be made acquainted with the fact that library administration is neither a clerical service nor a mere matter of technical routine, but presents the same elements as any other business, such as attempting to render a maximum service to the largest number at the least cost, with consequent studies into the factors of operating costs, elimination of waste motion and unessential detail, the building of a professional zeal and morals based on thorough training and guided by experienced leadership. All of these factors can be found in first-class state and public libraries today, but will seldom be found under librarians who

are appointed for personal rather than professional qualifications.

Our specific recommendation is that if the Council takes favorable action on this matter a committee of representative librarians be appointed, none of them to be residents of the state of Michigan, so that the situation, so far as it relates to this state, may be considered free from the possibility of local bias. The librarians of Michigan feel very strongly that the American Library Association should not allow to go unchallenged the conception of librarianship which is implied in the foregoing statements. A proper declaration of the position of the American Library Association on this matter would most assuredly do much to enable the general public to have a better conception of what librarianship involves, and thus hasten the day when the best public service only shall be the sole factor in the selection, appointment and tenure of librarians.

Very respectfully,
THE MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
By HAROLD L. WHEELER, *President.*

Mr. Bishop moved and Miss Tyler seconded that a committee of three librarians be appointed by the President of the Association for the purpose of investigating facts as to political appointments to state librarianship and state library commissions, and to report to the Council as soon as they are ready to make such a report for such action as the Council may then see fit to take.

RECLASSIFICATION OF GOVERNMENT LIBRARIANS

Suggested points for Council action in connection with the reclassification of employees in the Government Service submitted by the Reclassification Committee of the District of Columbia Library Association were presented by Miles O. Price of the United States Patent Office.

Whereas, the Congress of the United States, in an effort to develop a modern system of personnel administration for the federal government, has enacted the Classification Act of 1923; and

Whereas, this act provided for the proper recognition of all types of professional work in the government service, including librarianship; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association, as citizens and as a professional body, heartily approves the action of the Congress of the United States, and, In order to insure the best results in the administration of the law, as affecting librarians, it urges:

1. That the professional status of librarians should be recognized in remuneration rates as well as in titles, and that the dividing line between the professional and sub-professional grades should be so drawn as not to exclude an undue proportion of trained library workers from full professional status.

2. That those persons in Government libraries whose work is of professional or subprofessional character and who have been tentatively allocated to clerical grades should be reallocated to appropriate professional and subprofessional grades.

3. That in making allocations due weight should be given to specialized types of library work along reference, research and bibliographical lines conducted by many of the smaller departmental and bureau libraries, as well as to administrative, general and specialized types of work in larger libraries.

4. That the A. L. A. commends the report of the Reclassification Committee of Government Librarians and, without committing itself on all points covered, recommends it to the serious consideration of the federal classification authority as the best information available.

5. That the Secretary of the A. L. A. be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Personnel Classification Board at Washington.

On motion of Mr. Wyer, it was voted that the Executive Board be asked to bring the support of the A. L. A. to the District of Columbia Library Association as these matters come before committees and Congress.

PROPOSED FEDERAL BUREAU OF LIBRARIES

The proposed bill for a Federal Bureau of Libraries, given in full elsewhere in this number, was submitted by James I. Wyer, chairman of the Committee of Federal and State Relations, who explained that his committee did not urge any action, but merely presented this bill for discussion. The drawing up of the bill by the Committee grew out of Joy E. Morgan's suggestion at Hot Springs that the Association be prepared for action on the question of a Bureau of Libraries when the question should arise.

Meanwhile good prospect of the passing of the Bill to Provide for a Library Information Service in the Bureau of Education (S. 557; H. R. 663) makes it seem more desirable to re-endorse that bill already three times endorsed by the Association. Miss Guerrier and others having spoken on support of this it was, on motion of Mr. Meyer, seconded by Dr. Hill, voted that

Whereas, there is now in the Educational Committee in both the House and Senate a bill to provide for a library for service in the Bureau of Education; and,

Whereas, hundreds of libraries in all parts of the United States have gone on record favoring this bill; and,

Whereas, there is a greater need now for the library information service than when it was first proposed; be it

Resolved, that the Council of the American Library Association again endorse the bill and urge its passage; be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of both Educational Committees and to the Commissioner of Education.

The text of the proposed bill will be given in full in a later number, as will word on the discussion of incomes for college, university, and high school librarians.

LIBRARIES AS DISTRIBUTORS OF EDUCATIONAL FILMS

A plan for making libraries the principal agencies for the distribution of educational motion pictures, presented by Ben Howe, of New York, occupied the first half hour of the third session on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Howe suggested that libraries become centers of information, and the principal agencies for dis-

tributing educational and "entertainment" films. This would involve the selection and cataloging, with annotations, of all films of educational value. The plan also recommends establishment by the A. L. A. of storage facilities and printing laboratories for educational films and some central point, with a number of libraries geographically scattered to act as distributing agents, so that any library might obtain on short notice any film required by its community, in view of the "fact that motion pictures are destined to become the most important factor in future education of all people of all future ages." On motion of Mr. Windsor it was voted that the whole matter of motion pictures films be referred to the Executive Board to appoint such committee to consider the whole question as it deems advisable. In this connection President Jennings read a letter from John Cotton Dana, who was unable to be present:

I am just in receipt of a multigraphed letter from the A. L. A. on educational motion pictures, a plan for making libraries the principal agencies for distribution. Is the Council convinced by any other evidence than that of their own spontaneous and undying liking for the movie and their sympathetic reaction to anything widely hailed as educational, that motion pictures of any kind as now presented have educational value? If no is the answer to this question, ought not the Council try to discover if motion pictures have educational value before adopting plans for promoting thru the A. L. A. their wider use? If by chance there are any educational films, which are they?

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION

The Committee on National Certification and Training, of which Frank K. Walter is chairman, reported that it had proceeded slowly so as to avoid duplication of expense and effort already taken by such agencies as the Temporary Training Board, The Committee of Five, the Committee of Schemes of Library Service, and had not thought it advisable to proceed with any specific plan for certification or with the publicity pamphlet authorized by the Council last year. Meanwhile the question is becoming better known. Wisconsin, California and New York state have established schemes and several states await a favorable opportunity for introducing legislation or for the adoption of some voluntary plan. The Williamson report and the comments thereon made by the library school principals in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL** "rather generally accept, implicitly or explicitly, the assumption that certification is eventual and desirable." On the other hand Dr. Bostwick, whose paper on standardization was read for the American Library Institute at its Lake Placid meeting (*LIBRARY JOURNAL*, October 1st, p. 799-802) points out

the various aspects which standardization may take and suggests the danger of entering on any extensive scheme of standardization until the limits of advantageous standardization are recognized.

When sufficient replies to the Committee's questionnaire are received from libraries and commissions, the Committee will endeavor "to determine what the present attitude and tendency toward certification on the part of the library workers is and what progress, if any, has been made toward any general opinion, which may serve as a basis for certification"

At the close of its third session the Council on Motion of Mr. Godard sent greeting to Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Bowker.

LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

THE 20th annual meeting of the League of Library Commissions was held in Chicago at the Hotel Sherman, on January 1, with Clarence B. Lester, first vice-president in the chair, in the absence of Milton J. Ferguson, president.

The meeting was largely devoted to the business of the League and the reports of committees. In the roll call of the states, representatives from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin reported many interesting pieces of work being carried on in those states.

The establishment of county libraries is one of the most urgent subjects in the middle west states. Illinois reported educational campaign matters planned for four counties. Miss Northey, organizer for Indiana, told of the demonstration she was putting on in one of the counties. New books had been purchased and with the cooperation of the county superintendent of schools and other organizations, distributing stations had been opened from which free library service would be given the entire county. The demonstration is to be carried on for nine months before the question of legally establishing a county library is brought up. In Ohio two county library elections held in November failed to carry. Miss Hobart said that New Hampshire by reason of topography and climate does not find the county library feasible, and that that state is giving more attention to certification and library standards.

Mr. Lester told of the success of the two weeks' library conference held in Wisconsin last summer and of the county library mock trial before a county board forming a part of the program of the state library meeting, which trial is reported in the Wisconsin *Bulletin* for November. Mr. Lester also spoke of the part

* *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, November 1st, 1923. p. 899-910.

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Officers elected for the ensuing year are: President, Mr. Ferguson, vice-presidents, Mr. Lester and Miss Hobart; secretary, Fannie Rawson.

ANNA MAY PRICE, *Secretary.*

NORMAL SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

NORMAL school librarians held two well-attended and interesting sessions presided over by Anna V. Jennings of Kearney, Neb.

Miss French discussed worthwhile educational books of 1922-23. Her list included books of general educational interest, and of specific problems as, silent reading, child study, supervision, curriculum. The list probably will be published later. In the discussion on keeping a live collection and disposing of duplicates of out-of-date books, it was suggested that limiting the number of copies of a particular title would make it possible to keep abreast of the new material and that duplicates of out-of-date books had better be destroyed.

Mr. Kerr's report on what the "measuring stick" is doing for normal school libraries is to appear in a later number. In the discussion, it was suggested that liveness of collection should be indicated rather than merely number of volumes. Also that in working out the section on equipment, arrangement should be an important factor.

Miss Pritchard gave a most instructive report of the Library Committee of the 1923 N. E. A. She brought out the fact that the cause of school libraries is being forwarded by placing library speakers on principals' and superintendents' meetings rather than endeavoring to attract school men to the library conference. She indicated three needs: Courses for teachers in children's literature; publicity; and surveys.

Miss Welch discussed efforts in normal schools to train teacher-librarians. She said the ideal is the fully-trained school librarian tho as a beginning the normal school must provide the minimum training along with pedagogy.

Miss Buck talked on fundamentals of library instruction for students: An understanding of what it all means; the use of the tools; how to administer a library; technique. A brief outline of a course of instruction for the elementary schools was presented.

Miss Winans answered her own question: "Should there be a special staff member for teaching?" in the affirmative. The person who teaches library work, must know the principles of teaching as well as the science with which he works.

Miss Helm in discussing the librarian's reading, suggested various methods of keeping in-

formed. The specialist is as harmful as the dabbler in reading. The cure-all would seem to be a full reading of some one topic and a little about all things. The discussion developed the idea that a librarian must be selfish enough to take time to read.

Gertrude Buck of Milwaukee, was made responsible for next winter's meeting.

STELLA H. PIERSON, *Secretary.*

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS

TWO sessions were held by the University Librarians under the chairmanship of Earl N. Manchester, of the University of Kansas. Each session was attended by slightly over one hundred.

The discussion was wholly informal on questions previously submitted to the chairman. The increase in university attendance, causing unlooked for demands on the libraries, was reflected in the questions presented. How best to care for maximum temporary demands with a minimum of duplication, was one of the problems. Mimeographed and photostatic copies with attention to the matter of copyright was one of the suggestions.

What is the minimum book fund? The following were suggested as variables entering into the problem: Number of students, number of courses given, demands of courses, personal equation of professors making suggestions, amount of research or graduate work, and present book stock.

Questions of when to change classification schemes in use, brought out a brief discussion of the merits and deficiencies of the Library of Congress and Dewey Decimal systems. The problem of changing is a local one and the cost will be a great factor. One library reported a cost of forty cents per title to change the call number on the volume and on various cards: another reported fifty to sixty cents as the cost for this service. The use of Merrill numbers as part of the classification was suggested where alphabetical arrangement is desired.

Building and equipment for university libraries caused considerable discussion. The lack of collected recent information in printed form was brought out. The Committee of the A. L. A. College and Reference Section on Standards for College and University Libraries has this matter under consideration and it is expected that at the next meeting of the A. L. A. some information in these matters will be presented.

Numerous other topics were discussed, and while none of them were settled to the satisfaction of all, the discussions were helpful to many. This was shown in the fact that most of those present stayed thru the entire program.

Olive Jones, of the Ohio State University, was

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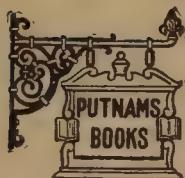
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chosen chairman, and E. A. Henry, of the University of Chicago, secretary. These two, with Mr. Manchester, constitute the committee for next year. EDWARD D. TWEEDELL, *Secretary.*

PUGET SOUND LIBRARY CLUB

ONE hundred librarians from Washington and Oregon attended the mid-winter meeting of the Puget Sound Library Club held December 28, 1923, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Tacoma. Librarian John Boynton Kaiser in welcoming the club told of the history of early libraries on Puget Sound.

In an inspiring paper on "Measuring the

Public Library System" President Mary Kobetich urged that librarians fight for the same support as is given the public schools.

After luncheon and a social hour Nell Unger, librarian of Garfield High School, Seattle, gave an interesting account of her experience as a library organizer in New York State.

Charles W. Smith, associate librarian of the University of Washington, who went to Europe last summer to buy books for his library, told of general conditions and of the book market in Europe.

Ralph Munn, reference librarian at Seattle, was elected president at the business meeting.

LIBRARY WORK

RADIO AND THE LIBRARY

RADIO programs have come to take roughly two hours of the four or five leisure evening hours already broken into by social engagements, moving pictures, the automobile and the newspaper comic section, says F. L. Tolman, reference librarian of the New York State Library, in the fall number of *New York Libraries*. The uncertain remnant of time is all that the public library can count upon for home reading and study of the literature it supplies. Afternoon and evening hours are now congested and the morning concert or talk is common. Mr. Tolman "ventures to guess that more books are returned unread than are dreamed of by librarians, and that there is danger that reading of anything beyond business and light literature will become a lost art."

Yet the librarian need not be unduly disturbed. "The stuff sent over the ether is to a considerable extent the same that she has on her shelves. Both offer children's stories, poems, essays, addresses, history, plays and the like." She can do much to improve the quality of the material broadcasted. The war will be carried into the enemy's own country when libraries follow the example of many universities and the United States Bureau of Education in broadcasting lectures of serious appeal. "Why should not some selected libraries experiment by expanding their community features, including efficient receiving sets and offering an eclectic program from the best features sent out from the various stations within reach? . . . A loudspeaker will carry without difficulty to any audience that a library lecture room will hold."

The latter question, that of receiving by the library, is still a problem, according to Augustus

H. Shearer in *Radio Broadcast* for November. "Where libraries have suitable auditoriums it is possible that the library's function should be broadened to provide for its clientèle the things which the books can not give—the spoken word and music. This is one of the effects that radio may have on existing institutions, and the library must be alive to its possibilities."

THE CARE OF PAMPHLETS

THE method used at the Long Beach (Calif.) Public Library for the preparation and circulation of pamphlets has been found clear, easy to use, and efficient in serving the public. The method of procedure, as outlined in December *Public Libraries*, involves the following processes. All pamphlets are assigned to their appropriate department at the reference desk, after which they are sent to the catalog department to be classed by subject and given consecutive numbers. Cards are made for all important pamphlets. The location symbol (i. e. M. C. for Municipal Collection) is used instead of the class number.

A shelf list card for each box in the class is made and this card filed in the main shelf list. A special pamphlet shelf list, made on ordinary waste catalog cards, is kept at the reference desk. Each pamphlet is added to a card in this file in the order in which it is received, hence the consecutive numbers. The pamphlet shelf list card contains class number, subject heading, consecutive pamphlet number, official author, brief title and date. For minor subjects under the main subject a cross reference card is made for the catalog, and the tracing is made on the reverse of the pamphlet shelf list card. Pamphlets not regarded as sufficiently important for a card in the main catalog are marked "not listed," as is its shelf list card. The cards which

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are made for important pamphlets for the main catalog are duplicated for a "pamphlet check list file" also kept at the reference desk. The card contains class number, consecutive pamphlet number, official author, title and date.

Pamphlets are filed in pamphlet boxes on the

circulating shelves, the box immediately following the books in the class. When pamphlets are borrowed they are slipped into temporary folders. A temporary book card is made at the charging desk, and pamphlets are charged out by class and consecutive number only.

LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES

POSITIONS OFFERED

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for an assistant in agricultural economics information.

The examination will be held throughout the country on February 6. It is to fill a vacancy in the Department of Agriculture, and vacancies in positions requiring similar qualifications, at entrance salaries ranging from \$2,400 to \$3,000 a year. Appointees who receive \$2,500 a year or less may also be allowed the increase of \$20 a month granted by Congress.

The duties consist of writing or editing articles on agricultural, financial, or economic subjects; writing in popular form the results of agricultural and economic investigations being conducted by the Department of Agriculture so that they may be easily understood and appreciated by the layman . . . and for the use of newspapers, farm papers, and commercial and financial journals.

Competitors will be rated on practical tests, published papers or magazine or newspaper articles prepared by the applicant, and education and experience.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of U. S. civil-service examiners at the post office or custom-house in any city.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for assistant editor. Vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., at \$2,000 to \$3,000 a year, and in positions requiring similar qualifications, at these or higher or lower salaries, will be filled from this examination unless it is found in the interest of the service to fill any vacancy by reinstatement, transfer, or promotion.

All citizens of the United States who meet the requirements, both men and women, may enter this examination; appointing officers, however, have the legal right to specify the sex desired in requesting certification of eligibles.

The duties of the appointee will be to edit scientific manuscripts; to consult with authors with a view to revising material submitted so as to present it more clearly, briefly, and forcibly; to rewrite manuscripts of technical and scientific research work in such language as can be easily understood by the practical farmer; and to perform related work as required.

Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place but will be rated on the following subjects, which will have the relative weights indicated: Practical test, 35 weights; education and experience, 35; published papers or magazine and newspaper articles prepared by the applicant (to be filed with the application), 30.

Applicants should at once apply for fuller particulars and for Form 2118, stating the title of the examination desired (assistant editor), to the Civil Service Commis-

sion, Washington, D. C.; the Secretary of the United States Civil Service Board at other cities. Applications must be filed with the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., . . . on February 5, 1924.

The Free Public Library of New Bedford, Mass., wants a high school reference librarian, college graduate, with some library or library school experience required. References would be demanded, and candidates would be met either in Boston or New York. Salary about \$2000.

The Plumb Memorial Library, Shelton, Conn., has a position open for an assistant. Requirements: Good general education, some training and experience. Salary \$1020. Vacation, one month out of twelve.

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Young woman desires position in Southern or Western State. Training class graduate. Two years' college. Five years' experience in circulation and reference departments of public libraries. Reference work preferred. H. B. 2.

Young woman desires position in South or West State. Training class graduate with seven years' experience in circulation and reference departments. Prefers circulation work. A. M. 2.

Experienced technical book indexer desires indexing on whole or part time basis. W. G. F. 2.

Position desired by woman with ten years' experience in classification work, cataloguing and indexing in both public library system and commercial field. H. C. H. 2.

College graduate with two years' teaching experience, one year library school, nine years' public and college library work, desires position. U. A. 2.

Librarian with wide general experience and five years' cataloguing experience wants position. Expert typist with some knowledge of stenography. C. Z. 2.

Librarian with normal school and two years' college work, executive ability and eight years' experience in all branches of library work seeks position. E. H. 2.

University graduate experienced in college and public library reference work wants position in a public or school library in Chicago or immediate vicinity. W. M. 2.

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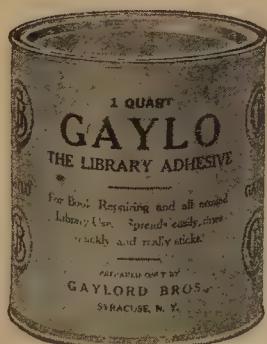


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AMONG LIBRARIANS

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- A. Library School of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta.
- C.P. Carnegie Library School of Pittsburgh.
- D. Drexel Library School.
- Ill. University of Illinois Library School.
- L.A. Library School of the Los Angeles Public Library.
- N.Y.P.L. Library School of the New York Public Library.
- N.Y.S. New York State Library School.
- P. Pratt Institute School of Library Science.
- R. Riverside Library School.
- S. Simmons College School of Library Science.
- S.L. St. Louis Library School.
- Syr. Syracuse University Library School.
- U.C. University of California Course in Library Science.
- W.R. Western Reserve Library School.
- Wis. Wisconsin University Library School.
- Wash. University of Washington Library School.

COOK, Lillian E., 1912 Wis., became director of the State Library Commission of North Dakota, January 1, resigning the librarianship of the Normal School Library at Minot, to do so. Bessie R. Baldwin, formerly on the staff of the Wisconsin Library Commission, has been appointed assistant to Miss Cook.

Dow, Mary E., 1911 Wis., acting librarian in the Public Library of Two Rivers, Wis., became acting librarian of the Normal School library at Mt. Pleasant, Mich., December 1.

FRANKHAUSER, Mary E., appointed librarian of the Michigan State Library succeeding Mary C. Spencer who died in August. Mrs. Frankhauser's appointment is for four years.

GAVERE, Jane Schauers, 1908 Wis., recently appointed secretary of the Bureau of Public Information of the Extension Division of the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

HEINS, Dorothea, 1912 Wis., librarian of the Traveling Library Department of the Iowa Library Commission, became librarian of the Public Library, Aberdeen, S. D., in January.

HOLT, Sigrid, 1916-17 N. Y. P. L., appointed librarian, National Board, Young Women's Christian Association, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York, not librarian of the North American Company as reported January 1.

KAISER, John Boynton, 1910 N. Y. S., since 1914 librarian of the Tacoma (Wash.) Public Library becomes librarian of the University of Iowa Library, Iowa City, February 1.

LONG, Hazel F., 1916 Wis., has been promoted librarian of the Public Library, Whiting, Ind., where she has been children's librarian for some years.

MACDONALD, Anna A., consulting librarian of the Library Extension Division of the Pennsylvania State Library and Museum at Harrisburg, appointed acting librarian in place of Dr. George P. Donehoo resigned.

NETHERCUT, Mary B., 1913 Wis., assistant organizer, North Dakota Library Commission, is temporarily working in the library of Denison University, Granville, Ohio.

POTTS, Marion E., 1912 Wis., has resigned the librarianship of the Third Corps Area, Fort Howard, Baltimore, to resume the librarianship of the Municipal Information Bureau of the Extension Division, University of Wisconsin, succeeding Sophia Hall. Miss Potts filled this position in 1917-18, resigning to enter war work.

RODRIGUEZ, E. B., who took the legislative reference course of the Wisconsin Library School in 1920, is joint author with Charles Edward Russell of the book "The Hero of the Filipinos, José Rizal," recently published by the Century Company. Mr. Rodriguez has recently returned to the islands where his address is 1079 Singalong St., Manila, P. I.

RYDER, Godfrey, since 1911 president of the Board of Trustees of the Malden Public Library died December 28th. Dr. Ryder who was a man of wide experience, culture, and education, and interested in all the philanthropic and educational movements of the city, was particularly devoted to the library, its work and development, and gave unstintingly of his time and energy in extending its influence of the library in the community. It was largely thru his efforts that Malden adopted the open shelf system, in the early days when that policy was much discussed.

SCHNARENDORF, Laura V., 1911-13 N. Y. P. L., appointed librarian, North American Company, 60 Broadway, New York, not librarian of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A. as reported January 1.

SEXTON, Jean M., 1919 Wis., head of the Traveling Library Department, Indiana Library Commission, has resigned to become assistant in the editorial and book department of the Cleveland Public Library. Most of her work will center in the preparation of annotations and other material for the *Open Shelf*.

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RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

AGRICULTURE—PRICES

U. S. Library of Congress. Short list of references on the stabilization of prices of agricultural products in the United States. 6 typew. p. Oct. 31, 1923. (P. A. I. S.).

ANIMALS. See ZOOLOGY

BIBLE—NEW TESTAMENT

Malden, R. H. Problems of the New Testament today; with list of books referred to in the notes, a chronological list of books of the New Testament, appendixes on the Virgin Birth and the Resurrection. . . . Oxford. O. \$2.20.

CHANCE. See PHILOSOPHY

CHEMICAL WARFARE

U. S. Library of Congress. List of recent references on chemical warfare (supplementary to bibls. prepared by H. E. Haferkorn and C. J. West). 6 typew. p. Aug. 6, 1923. (P. A. I. S.).

CHEMISTRY, INDUSTRIAL. See LEAD

CHEMISTRY, INORGANIC

Mellor, Joseph W. A comprehensive treatise on inorganic and theoretical chemistry; v. 4. Longmans. Bibl. footnotes. O. \$20.

CHEMISTRY, ORGANIC

Cohen, Julius B. Organic chemistry for advanced students; 4th ed.; pt. 1, reactions; pt. 2, structural; pt. 3, synthesis. Longmans. Bibl. footnotes. O. \$6 each.

CHILDREN—EDUCATION. See EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY; VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

CHRISTIANITY

Case, Shirley J. The social origins of Christianity. Univ. of Chicago Press. 4 p. bibl. D. \$2.50.

CHURCH ENTERTAINMENTS

Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, comp. Religious dramas, 1924; selected by the committee on religious drama of the Council. Century. Bibl. O. \$2.

CHURCH SCHOOLS. See TEACHING

CITIES

McMichael, Stanley L., and Robert F. Bingham. City growth and values. 1222 Prospect ave., Cleveland, O.: McMichael Pub. Co. 4 p. bibl. O. \$4.

CLERGY. See PASTORAL WORK

CONIFERS

Dallimore, W., and A. Bruce Jackson. A handbook of coniferae, including ginkgoaceae. Longmans. 2 p. bibl. Q. \$14.

CONSERVATISM. See SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

U. S. Library of Congress. List of references on international courts, with special reference to the Permanent Court of International Justice. 27 min. p. Oct. 10, 1923.

DEFECTIVES

Taylor, Grace A. An inventory of the minds of individuals of six and seven years mental age. New York: Columbia University, Teachers College. 3 p. bibl. O. \$1.75. (Contributions to educ. no. 134).

DEMOCRACY. See U. S.—GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

DRAMA. See CHURCH ENTERTAINMENTS

ECONOMICS

Le Rossignol, James E. Economics for everyman: an introd. to social economics. Holt. Bibls. D. \$2.15.

EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY

Coy, Genevieve L. The interests, abilities and achievements of a special class for gifted children.

New York: Columbia University, Teachers College. 6 p. bibl. O. \$1.75. (Contribs to educ., no. 131).

Cunningham, Bess V. The prognostic value of a primary group test; a study of intelligence and relative achievement in the first grade. New York: Columbia University, Teachers College. 2 p. bibl. O. \$1.50. (Contributions to educ. no. 139).

EFFICIENCY, INDUSTRIAL

Custis, Vanderveer. The foundations of national industrial efficiency. Macmillan. Bibl. footnotes. D. \$2.25.

ENGLISH POETRY

Palmer, George H., comp. A catalogue of early and rare editions of English poetry, collected and presented to Wellesley College; with additions from other sources. Houghton. 621 p. O. \$25.

EVOLUTION. See NINETEENTH CENTURY

FASCISM

U. S. Library of Congress. List of references on Benito Mussolini and the Fascist movement in Italy (supplementary to typew. list of refs. on the Fascisti, Nov. 23, 1922). 9 typew. p. Nov. 2, 1923. (P. A. I. S.).

FORESTS AND FORESTRY. See CONIFERS

FRANCE—FOREIGN RELATIONS

Gooch, George P. Franco-German relations, 1871-1914. Longmans. Bibl. footnotes. O. pap. 90c.

FUR TRADE

Lewis, William S., and Paul C. Phillips. The journal of John Work, a chief-trader of the Hudson's Bay Co. during his expedition from Vancouver to the Flatheads and Blackfeet of the Pacific Northwest; with an account of fur trade in the Northwest and life of Work. Chicago: A. H. Clark Co. 8 p. bibl. O. \$6. (Early western journals, no. 1).

GERMANY—FOREIGN RELATIONS. See FRANCE—FOREIGN RELATIONS

GUILDS

U. S. Library of Congress. List of works published in English on guilds and other trade associations of foreign countries with emphasis on their history. 12 typew. p. Aug. 4, 1923. \$1.30. (P. A. I. S.).

HUDSON BAY COMPANY. See FUR TRADE

INORGANIC CHEMISTRY. See CHEMISTRY, INORGANIC

INTERNATIONAL COURTS. See COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

ITALY—GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS. See FASCISM

LABOR AND LABORING CLASSES

Eddy, Sherwood. The new world of labor. Doran. Bibl. footnotes. D. \$1.50.

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS. See GUILDS

LEAD

Smythe, J. A. Lead; its occurrence in nature, the modes of its extraction, its properties and uses, with some account of its principal compounds. Longmans. Bibl. footnotes. O. \$5.25. (Monographs on industrial chemistry).

LOGIC. See PHILOSOPHY

LOVE. See PHILOSOPHY

MINNESOTA—GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

MacLean, Ray B. Elementary citizenship for Minnesota schools. St. Paul, Minn.: Webb Pub. Co. Bibl. D. apply.

MNEMONICS. See PSYCHOLOGY

MONROE DOCTRINE

Thomas, David Y. One hundred years of the Monroe doctrine. Macmillan. Bibl. footnotes. D. \$4.

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The National Industrial Conference Board, 10 East 39th St., New York, has a fairly complete duplicate set of the publications of the International Labour Office at Geneva, which it will be glad to give to any library in exchange for material on industrial conditions in the United States or abroad.

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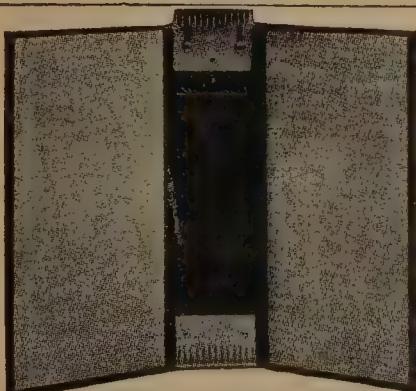
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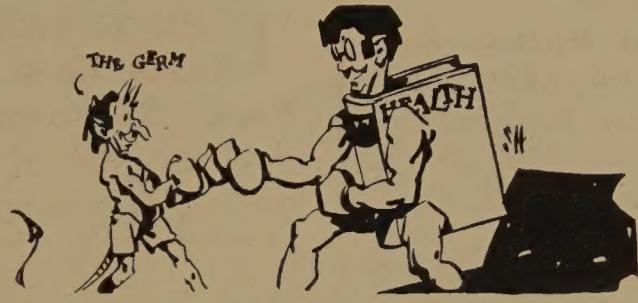
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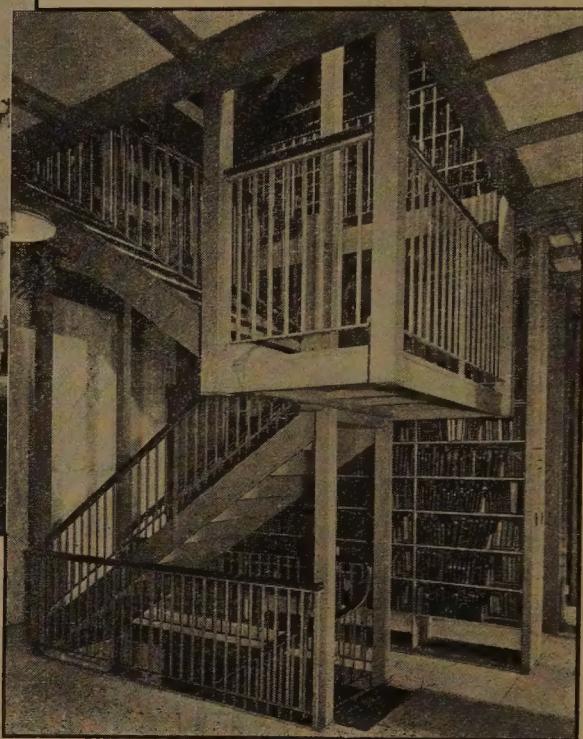
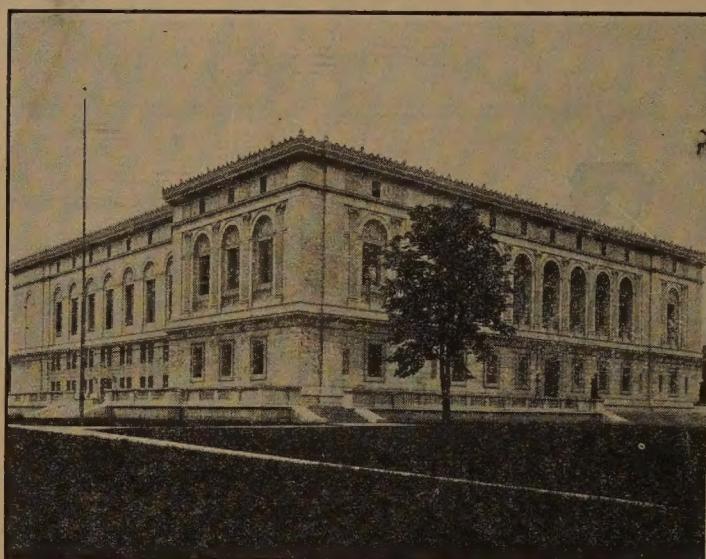
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